GORDONS OF CRAIG
AND
NOTES ON THE CABRACH

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MEMORIALS

OF

THE FAMILY

OF

GORDON OF CRAIG

COLLECTED BY

CAPTAIN DOUGLAS WIMBERLEY

Sometime of the 79th or Cameron Highlanders

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PREFACE.

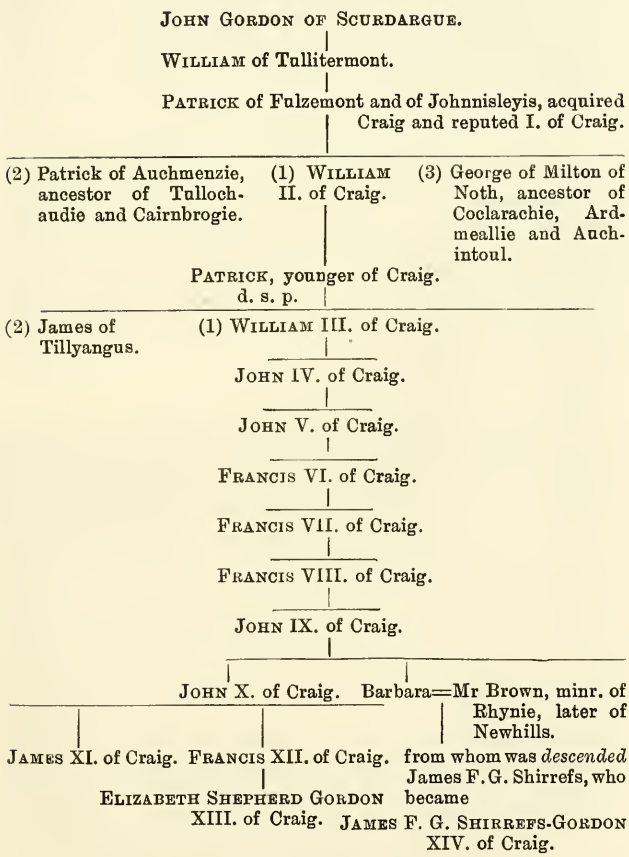
THE following account of the Family of Gordon of Craig was mostly compiled in 1902, with some hope that it might find a place in the series proposed to be published by the "New Spalding Club," under the title of "The House of Gordon." But I am inclined to think that all space available in the second volume has been already allocated, and the bringing out of the first volume has been deferred so much longer than I anticipated, that the prospect of the issue of a third volume (in which I hope "The Gordons of Craig," contributed by some one, will find a place), seems too remote for a man considerably beyond three score and ten to wait for, especially as some revisal of proofs is requisite.

I have, therefore, decided to get a few copies printed for private circulation, and have to thank one or two descendants of the Craig family for kindly contributing to the expense of doing this.

DOUGLAS WIMBERLEY.

INVERNESS, January 1904.

THE GORDONS OF CRAIG.


JOHN GORDON OF SCURDARGUE.
WILLIAM of Tullitermont.
PATRICK of Fulzemont and of Johnnisleyis, acquired Craig and reputed I. of Craig.
(2) Patrick of Auchmenzie, ancestor of Tulloch-audie and Cairnbrogie.
(1) WILLIAM II. of Craig.
(3) George of Milton of Noth, ancestor of Coclarachie, Ard-meallie and Auch-intoul.
PATRICK, younger of Craig. d. s. p.
(2) James of Tillyangus.
(1) WILLIAM III. of Craig.
JOHN IV. of Craig.
JOHN V. of Craig.
FRANCIS VI. of Craig.
FRANCIS VII. of Craig.
FRANCIS VIII. of Craig.
JOHN IX. of Craig.
JOHN X. of Craig.
Barbara=Mr Brown, minr. of Rhynie, later of Newhills.
JAMES XI. of Craig.
FRANCIS XII. of Craig.
from whom was descended James F.G. Shirrefs, who became
ELIZABETH SHEPHERD GORDON XIII. of Craig.
JAMES F. G. SHIRREFS-GORDON XIV. of Craig.

THE Gordons of Craig, or more fully of Craig of Auchindoir, possessed that property lying in the parish of that name, for upwards of 350 years by direct descent in the male line.

They traced descent from William Gordon of Tillytermont, second

son of Jock of Scurdargue by Elizabeth (otherwise called Margaret), Maitland of the Netherdale and Gicht family, and so were of the same stock as the Pitlurgs, Cairnborrows, Blelacks, Lesmoirs, Haddos, and their several cadets.

William of Tillytermont married a lady named Rutherford, either a sister or a daughter of a Sir John Rutherford, Knight, owner of the lands of Tarland, Aberdeenshire, 1485-1495. By her he had two sons: the elder, George, said to have had Fulzemont, but this is very improbable; he was probably "of Tillytermont," ancestor of the families of Blelack and Lesmoir; the younger son was Patrick, who was certainly "of Fulzemont," ancestor of the family of Craig and its cadets.

PATRICK GORDON I. OF CRAIG.

PATRICK, the younger of the two sons of William of Tillytermont, adhered more or less to the designation "of Fulzemont." That small property was apparently first acquired by him along with Auchindoir or Craig in 1510. He got a title thereto under an Indenture or agreement with the Laird of Drum, by which his eldest son William was to be infeft heritably in the lands of Auchindor, Fulzemont, Crawok, &c. He has been generally regarded as first laird of Craig, and is believed to have commenced and built a considerable part of the old Castle there, leaving its completion, which was effected in 1518, to his son. A copy of this Indenture will be given further on.

Patrick is mentioned under the following different designations, viz., "in Durnach," "in Fulzemont," "of Fulzemont," and "of Johnsleyis." In the earliest mention I have been able to find of him he is called "in Durnach," which may mean Durno near Pitcaple, but I take it to be Dornoch, as it is evident that he was on terms of intimacy with Adam of Aboyne, who married the heiress of the Sutherland family, and Adam's daughter, Lady Helenor, married a George Gordon of Auchmalidy, apparently of the Auchmenzie family (see "Rec. of Aboyne," p. 212), and got Tilphoudie for her portion, and her brother John, who resided at Tilphoudie, had a daughter who became the wife of George Gordon of Coclarachie. (See "Rec. of Aboyne," p. 42.)

But it is also clear that before the date of the Charter where he is called "in Durnach," 1505, he was in possession of Johnsleyis. For a Charter of Confirmation, granted by King James IV. to Duncan Forbes of Skene and his spouse of the lands of little Johnnisleyis in 1505, bears that Patrick had previously held these lands, and that they had been apprised from him for debt under redemption.

They were granted to Duncan Forbes and Christian Merson, his spouse, under reversion within 7 years, should the debt be paid; they were evidently redeemed, for in 1507 this fact is mentioned in a charter by which William Gordon, son and heir of Patrick, now designed "in

Fulzemont," got the lands of Johnsleyis on the resignation of Duncan Forbes and Christian Merson, his spouse, the free tenement being reserved by the said Patrick, dated at Edinburgh, 13th Sept. 1506 (R.M.S., I., No. 3131. See the terms of these charters further on.)

The lands of Auchindoir, or Davachindore, and Fidelmonth, had been granted by Alexander Stewart, Earl of Mar, to his cousin, Alexander de Irwyne of Drum, soon after the battle of Harlaw; and a charter was granted by Robert, Duke of Albany, Earl of Fyfe and Menteith, Governor of Scotland, confirming the gift made by Alexander, Earl of Mar, to his cousin, Alex. de Irwyne de Drum of the lands of Davachdore and Fidelmonth (List of Charters and Deeds from the Archives of Drum apud "Historical Narrative relative to the Irvines of Drum" by Colonel Forbes-Leslie).

In 1510 Patrick Gordon, shortly before mentioned as "in Fulzemont," but now as "Patsy Gordon of Johnnisleyis" concluded an agreement with the Knight of Drum, by which the latter was to infeft William Gordon, son and apparent heir of the said Patsy, in the lands of Auchindoir, Fulzemont, Crawok, mylne and ailhouse of the same, to be held in feu ferme on a yearly payment of 47 merks, the said Patsy and his heirs to be bound to make homage, manrent, and service to the King in time of war, with five riding men and 2 spears well furnished.

Patsy affixed his seal to the copy of this agreement retained by the Knight of Drum. It is dated at Aberdeen 18th March 1510. The witnesses were Walter Barclay of Towy, Alexr. Irving, sone and appearing ayr to the said Knycht, Richard Irvyne, Archd. Fraser, Schir Davy Lyde, and Schir John Striveling, notor publicht. Signed "Patsy Gordoun." (See "Antiq. Abdn. and Banff, IV., p. 455, and Col. Forbes Leslie's "Hist. Narr. Irvines of Drum.")

The Colonel remarks upon this — "Such agreements were authorised by the Acts of 1457 and 1503;" and he refers to "Tytler's Hist. of Scotland," III., 232, and several Acts of Parliament relating to the letting of lands.

After the date of the above Charter, 1510, Patrick Gordon generally has the designation "of Johnnisleyis." I have not found mention of him as "of Auchindoir" or "of Craig," nor of his son William, with either of the two latter, earlier than 1532. In that year, "William of Auchindoir" is a witness, and in 1537 "William of Crag" is a member of an assize or jury. (See details further on.)

Patrick, still designed "of Johnnisleyis," got a Charter in 1514 from Adam Gordon of Obin of the lands of Dalquhend and Wratoun, both near Aboyne and acquired by purchase, in favour of himself and his second son, Patrick, and his heirs, failing these of other sons mentioned—date 24th April 1514. (See Charter given below.) Instrument of Sasine in favour of Patrick Gordon is dated 29th April same year: the infeftment was by delivery of earth and stone

of the lands and enclosing him in a certain honse of the town thereof, the door being closed." (Original in Aboyne Charter Chest. "Rec of Aboyne," p. 39.) This Charter was confirmed by Alexander Earl of Huntly on 20th April 1515. (See Ibid.)

In May 1517 Adam Gordon, now styled "Earl of Sntherland, lord of the Barony of Obin," confirms another Charter to mnch the same effect, but granted by Patrick Gordon of Johnnisleyis to Patrick Gordon his son and his heirs, whom failing to George Gordon, his son and his heirs, whom failing to Thomas Gordon and his heirs, whom also failing to John Gordon and his heirs, of the lands of Dalquhing and Wratoun: To be held from said Patrick of the Baron of Aboyne; paying yearly to said Baron one penny in name of blench if asked; at Anchendoir. Witnesses: Robt. Lnmisden of Maidler, George and Thomas Gordons, sons of the granter. (Aboyne Charter Chest, apud "Rec. of Aboyne," p. 39.)

Summaries of several Charters referred to above are now subjoined:—

1. A Charter relative to Johnsleys.

"The King, because in a cause obtained by Duncan Forbes in Skene and Christian Mersar, his sponse, against [snper] Alex. Innes de eodem, Patrick Gordon in Durnach, and Alex. Balbirny, decree was issned that 30 oxen, 50 cows, 40 ewes and the wedderis [the prices stated], along with the profits during 16 years past [prices also given], mnst be paid, and because the said Alex. Innes and Patk. Gordonn were not in possession of moveable goods distrainable, Alex. Banerman of Wettertonn, Sheriff Depute of Aberdeen and Banff, cansed to be valned the lands of Litill Johnnisleyis, extending yearly to 10 ponnds, in the regality of Garviauch, Sheriffdom of Aberdeen, which the said Patrick held of the King by service of ward *in capite* for 300 merks; also the lands of Tnlydown, extending yearly to 8 merks in the barony of Abirkerdonr, Sheriffdom of Banf, which the said Alex. Innes held of the King by service of ward *in capite* for 100 merks—and sold them to the said Dnncan and Christina: Therefore [the King] granted to the said Dnncan Forbes and Christina Mersar, his spouse, and to the longer liver of them, their heirs and assigns, the said lands: and his pleasnre was that the said Alex. Innes and Patrick Gordoun and their heirs should have re-entry whensoever they should pay np the said snms within 7 years." 7 Jnly 1505. [R.M.S., I., No. 2862.] This shows that Patk. Gordon had Litill Johnsleys before 1505.

2. Another Charter relative to Johnnisleyis—

"The King granted to William Gordoun, son and apparent heir of Patrick Gordoun in Fulzemont, and the heirs of the said William, the lands of Johnnisleyis, with the mill of the same, Sheriffdom of

Abirdeen, in the regality of Garviauch, which, indeed, were claimed by William Blacklaw de Eodem in superiority, and by Duncan Forbes of Skene and Christina Mersar his spouse in property by a charter completed to them after a valuation of the same for 300 merks, in part payment of a greater sum, recovered by them against [super] the said Patrick, and were the property of the said Patrick before the said valuation, and then redeemed by Patrick himself from the said Duncan and C., and conquested [*i.e.*, obtained by purchase] from the said William B. along with his claim: and the said William B. Duncan and C., resigned the same: the free tenement being reserved to the said Patrick." [R.M.S., I., No. 3131, dated at Edinb. 13th Sept. 1507.] In this charter Patrick is designed "in Fulzemont," and it shows that he had redeemed Johnsleyis and also acquired the superiority thereof.

3. The next charter refers to Auchindoir and Fulzemont in possession of the Drum family early in 1507:—

"Charter of confirmation to Alex. Irvine of Drum of the Park of Drum, &c., also of Lunmay, Largneis, Auchindoir, Fulzemont, and Terlane, with Mills of Largneis, Auchindoir, and Terlane, Sheriffdom of Aberdeen, which the said Alex. had resigned." Confd. Edinb., 26 Feb. 1506-7. [R.M.S., I., 3070.]

4. The following relates to Auchindoir, &c. being acquired by the Gordons of Craig: it is one of the old Bonds of Manrent, and is given in "Ant. Abd. and Banff," IV., p. 455.

"Indenture of Manrent between Drum and Patrick Gordon of Johnnisleyis, A.D. 1511. [Summary only.]

"This Indenture maid at Aberdeen 18 March 1510: An agreement between Sir Alex. Irvyne of Drum Knycht on the one part and Patsy Gordon of Johnnisleyis on the other part, that the said Knycht shall infeft Willm. G., son and appering ayr to the sd. Patsy heritablie in his landis of Auchindor Fulzemont Crawok Mylne and ailhouse of the same with their pertinents in sheriffdom of Aberdeen, to be held by sd. Knycht and his heirs in feu ferme payand yeirlie 47 merks usual money of Scotland at 2 usual termes in the year: the said Patsy and his heirs to be bound to mak homage manrent and service till our Soverane Lord in tyme of his weris with fyve rydand men tua speiris weill furnist as efferis in hosting with the said Knycht or his ayris in Scotd. or in Engd., and to the part of this indentour remaning with the said knycht the said Patsy has affixt his seill together with subscription of his hand date above written. Witnesses: Walter Barclay of Towy, Alexr. Irving sone and appearing ayr to the said Knycht, Richard Irvyne Archd. Fraser, Schir Davy Lyd and Schir Johne Striveling notar publicht.

Signed PATSY GORDON OF JOHNNEZLEIS."

Walter Barclay of Towy was probably either father or brother of Patsy's wife: he belonged to an old and distinguished family as is notified on a mural tablet at Turriff of some 126 years later date which records that said family had then been distinguished for 500 years.

I cannot find evidence of Patsy having made payment of a sum of money over and above the feu duty for this infeftment of his son in Auchindoir, &c.: the superiority remained in the Drum family. Auchindoir with Lunmey, Largneis and Terlan are included in a re-grant of the Drum Estates to Alex. Irwying, Grandson and heir apparent of Alex. I. of Drum on the resignation of Alex. I. senior: free tenement reserved to the latter. Date Edinb. 27 Feb. 1553-54. [R.M.S., III., No. 897.]

I have found but little mention of Patrick of Johnsleys later than April 1514, when he got sasine of Dalquhend, &c.; but as Patrick of Fulzemont he was witness to a Charter granted by Alexander, Earl of Huntly, to Alex. Ogilvy of Ogilvy 13 Oct. 1519. [R.M.S., III., No. 215. See under WILLIAM II. of Craig.]

Jervise, in his book "Epitaphs and Inscriptions," describes two old tombstones lying in front of the altar of the old kirk of Auchindoir.

"One of them exhibits the Gordon arms, the initials "P.G." and these traces of an inscription—

". . . . . ES . . . PATR . . . . ORDEN
"QVHA . . . . DEC . . . .

"This possibly refers to Patrick Gordon in Fulzemont, now Wheedlemont, who had a Charter of Johnsleyes in 1507, and who also appears to have been the first laird of Auchindoir. He fell at Flodden in 1513 while fighting under his chief, the Earl of Huntly."

I think this last statement is erroneous.

"The other old tombstone at Auchindoir is in excellent preservation: it bears a shield initialed IG CL, and charged with the Gordon and Leith arms," which he describes; "also other initials and date 1580." The suggestion is that "these point to an intermarriage with the Leith family," but none such was known to the writer; and the paragraph may have been added by an editor after Jervise's death.

I have no doubt that this stone is in memory of James Gordon of Tillyangus and Christian Leith, his spouse, and propose to refer to it in a notice of the Gordons of Tillyangus.

Patrick 1st laird of Craig must have been alive 15th Oct. 1519, when he witnessed a Charter as Patrick of Fulzemont as stated above.

He married, according to the Balbithan MS., "the laird of Towie (Barclay's) daughter," with whom he begat five sons, viz.:—

1. His eldest son, WILLIAM Gordon, Laird of Craig.

2. His second son, PATRICK Gordon of Auchmenzie, of whom the family of Tillachowchie.
3. THOMAS Gordon [mentioned in a charter granted by Adam of Aboyne in 1517].
4. Mr JOHN Gordon, Chaplain of Coclarachie.
5. GEORGE Gordon of Miltown of Noth, forbear of the family of Coclarachy.

It is there added that "Their father, the said Patrick Gordon, dyed 1513 [killed at the battle of Flowden]. This must be a mistake: see above.

In the Harperfield Genealogy the names of the sons are given in the same order: a fragment of the Prony M.S. does not fully agree with these authorities.

It runs—"Patrick built the house of Craig, which bears date 1518, and married the laird of Towie-Barclay's daughter (their names and arms being above the door of the house); by which marriage there were five sons, viz.:—1. William, the laird; 2. Patrick of Auchmenzie; 3. George of Milton of Noth; 4. Mr John Gordon, Chaplain of Coclarachie; 5. Thomas.

"Patrick of Auchmenzie, the second son, married a daughter of Lumsden of Cushney, and was ancestor of the families of Tillachowdie, Cairnbrogie, and many others.

"George of Milton of Noth was ancestor of the families of Coclarachie, Ardmeallie, and Auchintoul."

The order in which the sons' names are placed in the Prony M.S. is probably correct, as George's comes next after Patrick's, as a substitute on failure of heirs male of Patrick, in a charter granted by Adam Gordon of Aboyne to Patrick of Johnnisleyis and Patrick, his son, and others, dated Terlane [Tarland], 24 April 1514.

It may, however, be argued that Mr John, Chaplain of Coclarachie, whose name is omitted among the substitutes, was older than George.

The mother of the five sons above mentioned was Rachel Barclay, of the Barclay of Towie family; her name is so given in the Harperfield Genealogy, and on the side of the Tower at Craig is a shield charged with the quartered arms of four families (no doubt Gordon, Barclay, and Stewart, and another); beside it are the initials P.G. and R.B., below are the letters IOISLEIS, evidently for Johnisleyis, and also the initials V.G. and E.S., for Villiam Gordon and Elizabeth or Elspet Stewart, his spouse; also the date 1518, when the tower is believed to have been completed.

The first laird of Craig died probably in 1519-20.

WILLIAM GORDON, II. OF CRAIG.

Son of Patrick G. of Johnnisleyis, who acquired Craig.

William Gordon, whom we may consider IInd laird of Craig, or Craig of Auchindoir, succeeded his father Patrick, and either built, or more probably completed the building of the Castle of Craig.

We find him with the designation "of Auchindore," a witness to the surrender of the lands of Kincraigie [super relaxione terrarum de Kincraigie] A.D. 1519-20 ("Antiq. A. and B." IV. p. 344).

Patrick Gordon of Fulzemont and William Gordon, his son and apparent heir, are witnesses to a Charter of Alex., Earl of Huntlie, in favour of Alex. Ogilvy of Ogilvy of Tulynacht, &c., signed at Huntlie 13 Oct. 1519, confirmed at Edinb. 4 Feb. 1521 (R.M.S., III. 215). This shows that his father was still alive in Oct. 1519.

William Gordon "of Auchindoir" is a witness to the sale of the lands of Creechties by Walter Barclay to James Gordon of Colquhodilstane [afterwards of Lesmoir] at Caubracht 31 July 1532. Charter confd. at Edinb. 6 Aug. 1532 (R.M.S. III. 1211).

William Gordon "of Auchindoir" is a witness to a Charter by George, Earl of Huntlie, in favour of Margaret Stewart, Lady Gordoun, his mother, of the liferent of the lands of the forests of Anzie and Boyne, with the manor and fortalice of Bog of Geich (apparently in consideration of her resignation of the conjunct fee of the lands of Badenoch with the fortalice thereof), for favours and money paid to him. Alex. Gordon of Boddam, and Alex. Baillie, Captain of Inverness, are other witnesses signed at Edinb. 30 July 1533, and confirmed at Stirling 5 Aug. 1533 (R.M.S. III. 1295).

William Gordon "of Crag" is on an assize along with James Gordon of Lesmoir, Thos. G. of Kennerte, Patk. G. of Auchmenzie, Duncan Forbes of Cultis, and others, to value certain lands Nethir Ruven, &c., which belonged to John Vaus of Many, held in feu farm of the King—valued 10 Nov. 1537 for debt, and sold to William Wod of Bonnytoun in satisfaction of said debt of 300 merks: said John and his heirs to have re-entry if debt was paid within 7 years (confd. at Edinb. 12th Dec. 1537 (R.M.S. III. 1734).

In 1547-48, a lease of Tullyangus was granted by Bishop William Gordon to William Gordon of Craige and James Gordon, his son: this transaction is referred to in a later Charter in favour of William Gordon, the latter's son. In a charter of confirmation in favour of William Gordoun, apparent of Tulliangus, 1577 and 1591, a previous charter is referred to, granted by William, Bishop of Aberdeen, to William Gordoun, son and apparent heir of James Gordoun of Tillyangus, and to Bessie Gordoun, his spouse, in conjunct fee and to the longer liver of them, and to the heirs male lawfully begotten or to be begotten between them, whom failing to the nearer heirs male of the said William

and his male assignees, reserving the free tenement of profits and usufructs to James Gordoun and Christian Leytht, his spouse, and the longer livers. Mention is made that Patrick Leytht of Harthill had been fiar of one half of said lands [probably he was either father or brother of Christian]. There is a footnote in which it is stated that Bishop William Gordon granted a lease of the lands of Tulliangous for 19 years to William Gordon of Craige and James Gordoun, his son, for a yearly rent of five pounds six shillings and eight pence, two bolls of oats, 12 capons, 2 rams, 40 pence for bondage silver, and half a mart.

The above Royal Charter is given in Reg. Magn. Sigill, date 1576 and 1591, Lib. XXXVIII., No. 218 ("Ant. A. & B." IV., p. 494) in the new Edit., R.M.S., in vol. V., No. 1874. See also under Gordons of Tillyangus below.

William, the 2nd laird, did not die in 1555, the date given by Balbithan, as appears from the following charter.

" The Queen confirmed a charter of William Gordoun of Auchindoir, by which for a sum of money paid to him, he sold to William Gordoun, his grandson, and his heirs and assigns his lands of Johnisleys, extending to 40 pounds of old extent, Sheriffdom of Aberdeen, to be held of the Queen: Charter dated at Auchindore, 15 April 1556: confirmed at Edinburgh 1 May 1556." (R.M.S. III. 1064.) The granter must have lived till 15 April 1556, but, as already noticed, he was deceased by 1559, when Elspet Stewart was holding the third part of Auchindoir, as her terce.

William Gordon, IInd laird of Craig, married Elspet Stewart, daughter of Stewart of Laithers, and had issue probably 2 sons and 2 daughters, viz.:—

I. Patrick, younger of Craig, heir apparent and fiar of Craig.

He married a daughter of Lesley of Wardes, by whom he had 4 sons and 2 daughters, viz.:—

(1) William, IIIrd laird of Craig.
(2) John of Drymmeis.
(3) Alexander, who was surety for his brother William in 1562 (Reg. Priv. Co.—26th Oct.)
(4) A Son.
(5) Elisabeth, married to William Leslie, 3rd or 4th son of William Leslie, first laird of Wartle: her husband William is said to have been killed by William Gordon of Gicht. (Macfarlane's Geneal. Collns. II. p. 41.)
(6) A Daughter, marrd. to Robert Coutts of Auchtercoull. ("Rec. of Aboyne," p. 198),

Authorities for the above, which vary slightly in details, are as follows:—

Patrick, according to the Balbithan M.S., where he is called *third* laird of Craig, although he was only called "laird younger," or fiar, married the laird of Wardes' daughter (Lesley) with whom he begat four sons, viz., William Gordon, *fourth* laird [really *third* if Patrick of Fulzemont is reckoned the *first*, and Patrick, fiar, is not connted], and John of Drumes [or Drymmeis]: their father, the said Patrick, was killed at the battle of Pinkie 1547. An addition is made in brackets "[and three sons.]"

The Harperfield genealogy shows that this Patrick *left* two sons, William and John of Drummies.

Janet Leslie, Patrick's wife, snrvived him: she is described as "the relict of Patrick Gordon," and said to have married twice afterwards, viz., as her 2nd hnsband, the laird of Foveran [William] Tnring, and as her 3rd hnsband, Robert Irvine of Tillylair, son of the laird of Drnm (Macfarlane's Geneal. Collns. II. p. 25), William Tnring granted by charter dated 1550, for a sum of money paid to him and for other benefits, to Janet Leslie in her widowhood for her lifetime the lands of Pitmellan [or Pitmillan], the Milltown of Foveran, in the Sheriffdom of Aberdeen—confirmed 9 Feb. 1555-56, Reg. Mag. Sig.—(Temple's Than. of Formartyn, p. 567), where it is added that William Turing died before this date, Robert Irvine of Tillylair's father, Alexander Irvine, yonnger of Drnm, fell at Pinkie.

The following charter refers to Patrick Gordon, who fell at the same battle:—

The King confirmed a charter by Alexander Gordoun of Knockinblewis, in which he sold to his consin Patrick Gordonn, son and apparent heir of William Gordon of Anchindoir, his sons and assignees, the lands of Drymmies, in the barony of Knockinblewis, to be held of the King—one of the witnesses is Robert Stewart of Latheris, signed at Aberdeen 10 May 1538—confirmed and the lands qnit claimed to said Patrick for good service at St Andrews 21 June 1538 (R.M.S III. 1795).

This Alexander Gordoun was son of Patrick Gordoun of Methlick [or Haddo]: he had got a charter of Knockinblewis on his father's resignation from the King at Stirling 1 Ang. 1529 (R.M. S. III. 814): he was also designed "of Braco," and was ancestor of the Gordons of Braco.

The name Knockinblewis, otherwise Knockinglews, and in 1490 Knok de Kynblewes appears to be a curious corrnption, perhaps from Cnocanglas, gray knoll, or more probably from Cnocchinnglas, knoll of the gray head. (See "Place Names of West Aberdeenshire" by James Macdonald, pp. 232-33.)

Retnrning to the issne of William, 2nd laird of Anchindoir and Elspet Stewart: their yonnger children were

II. James, of Tillyangus, ancestor of the Gordons of Tillyangus,

who evidently married Christian Leith, probably of the Harthill family: of him separately in an appendix.

III. AGNES, married Alexander Lesley, son to Andrew Lesley of Bncharn (Marfarl. Geneal. Collns. II. p. 37). Here Bucharn seems to be a mistake for Balqnhain; for in 1585 William Gordon of Anchindoir and John Gordon, apparent thereof, were among the witnesses to a feu charter of certain lands to Alex. Lesley and Agnes Gordonn, his wife, Balqnhain, Qnhit-hillock, and Newseat, dated 15 Aug. 1585. (From Notes from Whitehaugh Charters).

IV. MARGARET, married [James] Forbes [3rd laird] of Corsindae (Balb. M.S., Harperfield M.S., and Matth. Lumsden's Hist. of the Forbeses.

The Harperfield M.S. gives William's issne by "Elizabeth," danghter of Stewart of Laithers, as "two sons, one daughter, 2nd son James of Tillangns, ancestor of the family of this title." "Margaret married Forbes of Corsindae;" adds that "he" [William] "dyed at Craig in 1555;" it then mentions that "his grandson, William" [eldest son of Patrick by a danghter of Leslie of Wardhouse] "succeeded" him as 3rd laird, and that Patrick was killed at the battle of Pinkie 1547, and left another son, John of Drimmies.

This somewhat meagre information can be supplemented a little from Macfarlane's Genealogical Collections and other sources.

"The laird of Laithers' danghter was Elspet Stewart, who survived her hnsband, for as relict of nmqnhile William Gordon of Johnnisleyis" she was in 1559 "holding the third part of all and whole the lands of Auchindore, Fnlzemont, Crawok, Mill and Ailhouse thereof with the pertinents." ("Records of Aboyne" p.38).

William the laird seems certainly to have had two danghters, viz., Agnes and Janet.

"Agnes Gordon, daughter to William Gordon of Anchindoir, married Alexander Lesley, son to Andrew Lesley of [?] Bucharn." (Macf. "Geneal. Collns." II. p. 37); and

"Janet Gordon, danghter to the laird of Craig, married James Forbes, 3rd laird of Corsindae." (Ibid. II. pp. 247 and 479.) This last agrees with the Balb. M.S. and Harperfield Genealogies, except that the lady's name seems to have been Margaret. Matthew Lumsden, however, gives "Janet Gordon, danghter to the Laird of Craig of Anchindoir" as wife of James Forbes of Corsindae. ("Geneal. of Family of Forbes," p. 15.).

Macfarlane mentions (vol. II., p. 227) that a Christian Gordon, daughter to Thomas Gordon of Anchindoir, married Dnncan Forbes of Argreighton [2nd son of the first Sir John Forbes of Tolqnhon] "father of John Forbes in Terpersie.,' This Thomas was presnmably

the Thomas Gordon, son of Patrick of Johnisleys, mentioned in the charter granted by Adam of Aboyne in 1517.

William, the IInd laird of Craig, was deceased at some date between April 1556 and —— 1559 ("Rec. of Aboyne," p. 38), and was succeeded by his grandson, William.

WILLIAM GORDON III. OF CRAIG,

Grandson of William II. of Craig.

William, the third laird, succeeded his grandfather about 1557 or 1558 in the lands of Auchindoir; but he had succeeded to Drymmeis on his father's death in 1547.

The following extract from the "Exchequer Rolls" shows that sasine was granted to William Gordon when under age in accordance with a boon granted on the eve of the battle to the heirs of those who fell at Pinkie, "slain in the war against the English."

"The Sheriff will answer for £30 of fermes of the lands of Drymmeis, lying in the barony of Knockinblewis, and within his bailiary, being in the King's hands by the space of 1 year and 1 term last past by non recovery of sasine: and for £20 for the relief of the same due to the Queen by sasine granted to William Gordoun, the free tenement of the said lands of Drymmeis being reserved to William Gordon of Auchindoir, grandfather of the said William, for his whole lifetime. At Edinb. 5 March 1548. He is of lawful age by virtue of the Act passed at Monktounhall." [Virtute acti facti apud Monktounhall]. "Exch. Rolls" XVIII. pp. 460-1. *Notes.* Such an Act was passed at Monktounhall, apparently 2 days before Pinkie was fought, granting the privilege of dispensing with the minority of the heirs of such as might fall. (See preface to vol. XVIII. "Exch. Rolls," p. lxviii.)

John Gordoun of Pitlurg's father, John Gordoun, was another of those "slain in the conflict against the English on the 10 Sept. last past." The entry as to sasine to John Gordoun is dated Edinb. 4 May 1548. ("Excheq. Rolls," vol. XVIII.)

This laird of Craig resigned his lands of Johnsleys for a re-grant in favour of himself and Clara Cheyne his spouse, as is shown by the following extract, which is given in Latin in "Antiq. A. and B." IV. p. 776.

"Precept of a Charter of William Gordoun of Auchindoir and Clara Chene, his spouse, over [super] the landis of Johannisleyis. A.D. 1562."

"Precept of a Charter of Conjunct infeftment of William Gordoun of Auchindoir and Clara Chene, his spouse, over . . . .

the lands of Johnnisleys, extending to 40 shillings of lands of old extent with the mill of the same . . . . . lying in the lordship of Gareauch, and within the Sheriffdom of Abirdene, which lands belonged previously to the foresaid William, and which the same [William] resigned personally in the hands of the Queen at Aberdeen; To be held of the Queen and her successors. Reddendo rights and services therefrom [inde], due and wont. At Abirdene 19 Oct. A.D. [15]62."

"by the signet" [per signetam."]

There is added a footnote in Latin, "Abridged from the Registrum Secreti Sigilli vol. XXXI. foll.51-58. M.S. Gen. Reg. Ho. Edinb."

Although the reference is most precise I have failed to find even mention of the above in the first volume of the Reg. of the Privy Seal printed in 1877, and I looked through the indices of several years. I presume it was accidentally omitted.

The Laird of Craig at the time of Huntly's so-called Rebellion was evidently regarded with suspicion as he was one of those who had to appear before the Privy Council and give pledge to enter themselves within bounds severally specified, and remain within the same and four miles thereabout till freed by the Queen's Majesty: accordingly Alexander Gordoun appeared as "plege and souertie for William Gordoun of Craig, his brother, under a penalty of 3000 merks." (Reg. Priv. Co., 26 Oct. 1562); but he must have satisfied the Council if he got a grant of Rhynie the following year.

In 1563, on the forfeiture of the Earl of Huntly, a Charter was granted by Queen Mary to William Gordon of Craig of the lands of Rhynie, and a re-grant of the lands of Johnsleys was made in 1566. ("Castles of Aberdeenshire," page 32.) I have failed to find notice of any Charter of Rhynie or of this re-grant of Johnsleys in either the Reg. Magn. Sig. or Reg. Sec. Sigil.

The name of William Gordoun of Craig of Auchindoir is included in the list of persons who signed the Bond of Allegiance to the Crown in 1569 (Reg. Priv. Co. 1569.)

In 1585 William Gordoun of Auchindoir, and John Gordoun apparent thereof, were among the witnesses to a feu Charter of certain lands to Alexander Lesley, and Agnes Gordoun, his wife (Balquhain, Quhit-hillock, and Newseat) dated 18 Aug. 1585. (From notes of Whitehaugh Charters.) This Agnes Gordon was daughter of William of Auchindoir.

In 1589, 10 April, amongst a large number of persons alleged to be in arms against the King and charged to surrender their Castles is included Gordoun of the Craig of Auchindoir. (Reg. Priv. Co.)

In same year, 30 April, among the many "Northland men" who had to find caution for loyalty was William Gordoun of Craig with

Robert Cheyne of Straloch, [probably his brother-in-law], 3000 merks. (Reg. Pr. Co.)

In 1590, 16 Dec., under an Act of Parliament passed in July 1587 all landlords and bailies on the borders and in the Highlands, where broken men dwelt, were liable to find caution for good rule in their districts under pain of rebellion: a long list of northern lairds is given in the Act of Council of above date, passed at Holyrood House, and among the names occurs William Gordoun of Auchindoir in 5000 merks.

In accordance with "the slaughter of the Bonnie Earl of Moray" at Donibristle a number of persons were, in consequence of a charge made, denounced rebels for form's sake at a meeting of the Privy Council held on 22 March 1591-92. One of these was —— Gordoun of the Craig of Auchindoir. (Reg. Pr. Co.)

In 1593-94, 2 January, a Bond of Caution is registered by Patrick Gordoun of Auchmenzie for William Gordoun of Craig in £1000 and Johnne Gordoun his son in £500 not to harm Walter Ord, Burgess in Banf and others, and William Gordoun of Craig to pay Treasurer 200 merks and his son John £40 for their escheats. (Reg. Pr. Co.) This Johnne Gordoun was evidently John G. of Drymmies.

In 1593 William Gordon granted a Charter of sale of the lands of Johnsleyis, &c., to his son, which will be found below.

In 1596 the same laird of Craig obtained by Charter from the master of Elphinstone with consent of the latter's father the lands of Contlach and Auchenlaith, parts of the barony of Kildrummy, which at that time had already for a long period been alienated from the Erskines, Earls of Mar, but was long afterwards recovered by the Earl in 1626. These and other lands, parts of the Earldom of Mar, similarly acquired after the forfeiture of the Erskines, caused much trouble and loss to the families, whose ancestors had made such purchases.

The Elphinstones got possession of the lands of the Earldom, and in 1507 Alexander Elphinstone, son and apparent heir of Sir John Elphinstone of Elphinstone had got confirmation of a Charter in favour of himself and Elizabeth Berlay [or Barlow], his spouse, of the Barony of Invernochty, Bellabeg, &c.; also a grant of Skellater, forest of Corgarff, lands in Glenbuchat and others, with the forest of Baddinyoun, and Kilvalauche, Estir Clova with Corrykeynzane, Contelauch with Braidshaw, Auchmillan, &c., in excambion for Mekil Migve, Ester Mygve, Tullyprony, Blalok, and Correcrief in Cromar, and for Duncanstoun, Rochmurrell and Tullefour in the lordship of Garvianch; which the same Alex. and Elizabeth resigned, dated at Edinburgh 10 Dec. 1507 (R.M.S., II., 3159): he also acquired the King's dominical lands of Kildrumy in 1508, and he and his spouse got a re-grant of Invernochty and these lands of Kildrummy 12 August 1513, shortly before Flodden where he fell. In 1626 the

Earldom of Mar and the lands thereof were, after a long contest, adjudged to John Erskine, Earl of Mar, who consented to pay a large sum, 48,000 merks, to get the terms of reduction agreed to by Lord Elphinstone, and the Master, his son. The Earl at once took steps to recover various lands that had been alienated by raising prosecutions against some 150 proprietors in possession of lands or superiorities within the Earldom, calling upon them to produce charters from certain of the Mar family.

As this claim was raised in the time of John the IVth laird I shall defer further reference to this matter till his time. (Mackintosh's "Historic Earls of Scotland," pp. 58-60.) Up to the close of the 16th century the lairds of Craig were successively adding to the family estates.

William Gordon, the 3rd laird, married Clara Chein or Cheyne, daughter of the laird of Straloch, by whom he had two sons, viz.:—

I. JOHN, 4th laird of Craig.

II. PATRICK of Fulzemont or Wheidlemont. According to the Balbithan M.S., he married the laird of Strathloch's daughter (Chein), with whom he begat two sons, viz., John Gordon Vth [IVth], laird of Craig, and Patrick Gordon of Fulzemont (or Whewlemont). Their father, the said William, died 1607.

The account given in the Harperfield Genealogy is the same, except that his wife's Christian name, Clara, is given, and Patrick is there designed "of Wheidlemont or Drumwheidle," and his age at death is said to have been upwards of 80 years.

I have no doubt that the original name of Fulzemont was Drumchoille, which would be pronounced Drumchylie, then, Aberdeenshire fashion, the *chy* would become *quhy*, and be pronounced *why* or *fy*: somewhat similar corruptions are found in Craigwillie, near Huntly; formerly Craig-cullie, i.e., Craig-choille, and Tilquhillie or Tilwhilly on the Dee. Fulziemont must surely have been a kind of French form of the name. There were Temple lands of Fulzemont.

We find a memento of Clara Cheyne and her husband on the tower of Craig, a shield bearing the arms of Gordon and Cheyne impaled, and the initials V.G. and V.C. are cut above the old entrance door with the date MD$\bar{X}$ 8. I cannot say definitely what year this may mean, but it has been suggested to me by a friend that it may be 1608, and the date of William's death.

Clara Cheyne is supposed to have erected the church (which, now a ruin, is a little way off from the Castle, in 1557; the arms of her husband and herself and their initials with that date are (or were) on the north-west corner of the building. (Jervise's "Epitaphs, &c.," II. p. 208.)

There is another shield on the tower with the initials P G and

J L for Patrick Gordon, William's father, who fell at Pinkie, and Janet Leslie, his mother.

The date of William, IIIrd laird's death was probably 1608: he must have been an old man, having survived his father about 60 years, and his grandfather about 48 years.

JOHN GORDON IV. OF CRAIG.

Son of William IIIrd of Craig.

JOHN, the IV. laird of Craig, succeeded his father in 1607, according to Gordon of Harperfield, who mentions that precept was granted for infefting him as heir to his father William, 11 July 1607. I suspect that the year was 1607-8, and this infeftment in July 1608. Harperfield adds that this laird was eminent for his learning, as appears by a Latin poem addressed to him by Dr Arthur Johnston, and that he went abroad on a special license from King James VI.: that he married Lucy, daughter of Barclay of Towie, and died 10 April 1634, in the 71st year of his age. He gives some slight details as to his family, of whom hereafter. The information given in the Balbithan M.S. agrees generally with the above.

He acquired Johnisleyis and Drymmeis from his father on his marriage: his wife's name is given as Lillias Barclay in a charter of sale dated Turriff 16 October 1593, by which William Gordoun of Auchindoir for fulfilment of a marriage contract between himself on the one part and Patrick Barclay of Towy and Elizabeth Hay, his mother, on the other part, sold to John Gordon, his eldest son, the town and lands of Johnnisleys, Clinkstoun, Overtoun, Midtoun, Nethertoun, Rottinboig, with mill, mill lands, &c., in the parish of Inche, the town and lands of Drymmeis, with holdings, &c., in the parish of Inverurie, Sheriffdom of Aberdeen, with reservation of the free tenement of all to the said William, and a liferent of Drymmeis to Janet Leslie, mother of the said William [i.e., to the relict of Patrick Gordon, who was killed at Pinkie]. to be held by the said John, and his heirs male lawfully begotten between him and Lillias Barclay, his spouse, sister of the said Patrick, and daughter of the said Elizabeth, whom failing the heirs male and assignees whomsoever of the said John of the King: the Reddendo was services previously use and wont. One of the witnesses is John Gordoun in Drymmeis, dated at Aberdeen 23 April 1596. This charter was confirmed by the King at Edinb. 15 Jany. 1607. (R.M.S., VI., 1925).

I think there is a shield with arms and initials I. G. and L. B. on a wall at Craig.

John Gordon of Craig of Auchindoir is mentioned as cautioner for John Gordoun apparent of Avochie in 2000 merks to keep the king's

peace, not to bear hagbuts or pistolets hereafter, and to appear before the Council when charged. (Reg. Priv. Co. 9 Dec. 1609).

On 1 Feb. 1610 John Gordon of Craig of Auchindoir raised an action against Sir Alex. Fraser of Philorth, Alex. Fraser, yr. of Philorth, and others, as remaining unrelaxed from a horning of 29 July 1609 for not infefting pursuer in due form for an annual rent of 14 score bolls of victual, half meal half bear, to be uplifted off lands belonging to the defenders in the parishes of Philorth and Rathen, and for non-payment of the annual rent for year 1607 and years subsequent. Defenders did not appear: Pursuers appearing got decree. (Reg. Priv. Co, 1 Feb. 1609-10.)

John Gordon of Craig resigned Johnnisleyis and Drymmeis in favour of his son and heir, John, in 1618, when the King granted a new Charter of the Barony of Johnnisleyis in favour of John Gordon, junior, and Jean Gordon, his spouse. (See further on.)

Soon after this the curtailment of the family property commenced.

John Gordoun of the Craig of Auchindoir is mentioned among persons pretending to have interest in lands which were the subject of a suit between the Earl of Mar and Lord Elphinstone in 1626, and summoned, but they did not appear. ("Antiq. A. & B." IV., p. 254.) See mention of this laird's father having got a Charter from the Master of Elphinstone in 1596.

"The process which ensued embraced prosecutions against upwards of 150 proprietors in possession of lands or superiorities within the Earldom of Mar and the Lordship of the Garioch." (Mackintosh's "Historic Farls and Earldoms of Scotland," page 59, where a list of the principal of them is given.) "These persons were called upon to produce their Charters of possession from various Erskines up to Robert, Lord Erskine, and his predecessors; all these were to be reduced so far as the lands specified were parts and dependencies of the Earldom of Mar." . . . . "A considerable number succeeded in proving their right to the property in question, or to the superiority and property both: but in the majority of cases the superiority was found to belong to the Earl of Mar: in a few cases the Earl withdrew his claim. The interest of these cases consisted in the application of the laws of feudal tenure." (Ibid., pp. 59-60.)

As Contlach is mentioned as part of the Craig estate in 1696, I presume the laird thereof must have come to terms with the Earl of Mar, in regard to the right of property, and continued to hold under him as superior.

This laird, when younger of Craig, in 1596 was in trouble for adhering to the Catholic religion. "A crave was made by the Reformed [or Reformation] party that Huntly and Arroll presently be brought back again and placed in St Androis: my Lord Gordon

siclike brought to the south and put in the schools: their friends in the south to be wardit, as Cluny, Geicht, Abergeldie, Cowbairdie, Bonnytoune younger, Craige younger, Alexander Hay of Auchmather, Mr Alexander Leslie of Peill, James Knoweis, and John Gordoun of Newtoun: to be apprehendit Towie Barclay: Patrick Con." ("Book of the Universal Kirk of Scotland," p. 434., quoted in "Blakhall's Narration" Spald. Club Preface p. XVII.) Patrick Barclay of Towie Barclay was father of the young laird of Craig's wife.

Measures for the suppression of the Roman Catholic religion continued to be taken through the closing years of the 16th and the early years of the 17te century: excommunication fines and forfeitures were imposed upon those who, like the old laird of Gight, clung tenaciously to their old faith.

In the Records of the Privy Council there is not very much mention of the Craig family, and as John was the Christian name of the lairds, both father and son, sometimes doubt arises which is meant by "John Gordon of Craig," or "the laird younger of Craig."

The 4th laird, though excommunicated, was not an object of attention to those who enforced the laws in the same degree as his son, John.

An entry in the Register of the Privy Council under date June 1609 must refer to the son, as the father succeeded in 1607: the name "John Gordoun, appearand of Craig," occurs in a long list where the escheats of the estates of professed Papists and other excommunicated persons is given.

But the 4th laird had his liberty restricted for several years, and his means of livelihood greatly curtailed: he was compelled to live in an appointed town in Scotland, as will be seen by the Petition he made which is given below. The entries relative to the Craig family in the Register of the Privy Council are but few and meagre: but some interesting information is to be found in Blakhall's "Breiff narration."

Gilbert Blackhall was a Roman Catholic priest who contrived to live, without expulsion, in Western Aberdeenshire for a good many years. His narration was published by "The Spalding Club."

The Reg. Priv. Co. tells us that 1 July 1624 a charge was issued for the appearance of John Gordon of Craig, ane excommunicate trafficquing Papist, and on 20 July following caution was found by James Gordon of Lesmoir for his appearance and for his conforming to the true religion or else that he would leave the country. I have no doubt that the laird younger, if not already abroad, went forthwith to France and kept out of the way: in this case "John Gordon of Craig" must mean the young laird, because it is mentioned that Lesmoir was "his father-in-law."

Blakhall, who states that he wrote some 34 years after the event, which he records, gives an account of his meeting the laird of Craig

and his ladye in Paris, and the "laird of Craig" evidently means John apparent thereof. I take the date when he wrote to have been about 1660: he relates the incident which occurred "wel threttie and four years ago."

He writes "The laird of Craig, Gordon, and his ladye were loged then in the great rue of St Jacques Faubourg," but as this must relate to the laird younger, I shall defer the remainder of the extract till his time.

To return to the laird elder we find that by about 1630 his position in his own country had become so intolerable that he petitioned the Crown for permission to join his son in France.

"The laird of Craige, Gordon 'presented' circa 1630 his petition as follows:—

To the King's Most Excellent Majestie.

The humble petition of John Gordon, elder, of Craige, humblie sheweth that for religion order has been given for banishing the petitioner sonne his wife and children, and confyning himself (in respect of his great age) in a toune within Scotlande, which order they have all humbly obeyed, his sonne wife and poore children having forthwith abandoned the kingdome. A two part of the poore estate which we hathe being allotted for his son and his family, and a thyrde parte for himselfe, he now findeth that by such a meane proporcioun he cannot be able to lyve being both aged and sickly.

His humble suite is that he may have leave to departe the kingdome to live with his sonne, because by their estate vndivided they may all be more able to subsist than otherwise. And that your Majestie will be gratiously pleased to give order to your Counsalle for that effecte. And (as in dutie) he shall be ever bounde to pray for your Majestie's longe and prosperous raigne. (Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 459.)

The old laird probably did not long survive the date of this petition. I have not discovered whether it was granted. He may have died in 1634. His son, too, had but short tenure of his estate.

The following notes of sasines refer some to the father and some to the son:—

John Gordon of Craig got sasine in Diracroft, - - 1608.
Do. do. in Auchindoir, 13th Aug. 1608
(evidently soon after being served heir to his father).
John Gordon, yr. of Craig, and Jean G., his spouse, in Johnsleys (following up their getting Charter), - - - - 1st Sept. 1618.
The same in Craig.
John G. of Auchindoir in Contlache, - - 26th April 1620.
John G. of Craig in multures of Contlache, - 18th May 1620.

Renunciation Patk. G. of Over Fuilzemont to John G. of Craig of Over Fuilzemont [Patk. his son], - - - - - 9th June 1620.

Renunciation Alex. Lyoun of Braco to John G. of Craig of Johnsleyis, - - - 9th June 1620.

[Lyoun had recently acquired Braco from Gordon of Braco.]

John G., yr. of Craig, in lands of Contlach, - 18th July 1620.

Reversion of Newtoun of Auchindoir to John G., yr. of Auchindoir, - - - 27th Sept. 1624.

Jean G., spouse to John G., fiar of Craig, Auchindoir in Contlach, Auchenleith, &c., - 27th Sept. 1624.

Reversion of Over and Nether Fulzemont by James G., elder and younger of Lesmoir, to John G., fiar of Craig, &c., . - 27th Sept. 1624.

James G. of Lesmoir and James G. appt. of Lesmoir, in lands of Johnnisleyis, - - 16th Nov. 1624.

James G. of Lesmoir in lands of Fulzemont, - „ „

John G., yr. of Craig in Rany [Rhynie], - 12th April 1626.

John G. [yr. D. W.] of Craig and Jean G., his spouse, in Contlache, - - - 8th Dec. 1626

Reversion of Langlands to John G., yr. of Craige, - - - - - 2nd April 1630.

Reversion Nether Pleuchtown of Craige by George G., yr. of Tillachoudy, to John G., yr. of Craigie, - - - - 29th Aug. 1630.

These sasines show numerous transactions affecting lands between relations and connections. The following Charter shows how the father had resigned part of the family estate in favour of his son, possibly on the latter's marriage:—

"The King granted and gave anew to John Gordoun, eldest lawful son of John G. of Craig, and to Jeannie, alias Jean Gordoun, his spouse, the lands of Johnsleys, viz.:—Crinkstoun (or Clinkstoun), Overtoun, Nethertoun, Rottinbrig, with Mill, Mill lands, &c., in parish of Insche: toun and lands of Drymmeis in parish of Inverurie, sheriffdom of Aberdeen, which the said John Senior resigned, and which the King incorporated in the free barony of Johnnisleys: To be held by the said John Junior and Jean in conjunct fee and the male heirs lawfully procreated between them, which failing the male heirs of the said John, and his assigns whomsoever." 18 June 1618. (R. M.S., VI., 1848.)

John Gordon, 4th laird of Craig, had by his wife, Lillias, daughter of Barclay of Towie-Barclay, the following issue, viz.:—

I. John, Vth laird of Craig. (Balb. M.S. and Harperfield M.S.)

II. Patrick, who went abroad and served under Gustavus

Adolphus, and died in 1632 without issue. (Harperfield M.S.) This Patrick is designed "of Over Fuilzemont" in a sasine in 1620. (See sasines above.)

III. A DAUGHTER married Patrick Murray of Auchmull in France. (Balb. M.S.) [Probably there should be a comma after Auchmull, meaning that her husband was in France.]

IV. A DAUGHTER married Robert Stewart of Newton. (Balb. M.S.)

Harperfield only mentions that "there were two daughters, one of whom married," without further particulars.

Perhaps the words "in France" added after Auchmull mean either that the marriage took place in France or that Patrick Murray was serving in France or resident there. I have not found any mention of Murrays of Auchmull.

JOHN GORDON V. OF CRAIG.

Son of John Gordon IVth of Craig.

JOHN, the next and Vth laird of Craig, succeeded his father and lived in very troublous times, when toleration in religion was unknown. His tenure of his ancestral estate was comparatively brief from about 1634 to 1643.

Mention has been already made of his getting a Charter of the lands of Johnnisleyis and Drymmeis on the resignation of his father in favour of himself and Jean Gordon, his spouse, in 1618, but with some liferents reserved. Two years later he got sasine in Contlach, and in 1624 the Reversion of Newtoun of Auchindoir: on same day Jean Gordon, his spouse got sasine in Contlach, Auchincleith, &c.; and John Gordon, fiar of Craig, got the reversion of Over and Nether Fulzemont from James Gordon, elder, and James Gordon, younger of Lesmoir (his father-in-law and brother-in-law), while James G. of Lesmoir and his son James, apparent of Lesmoir, got sasine in Johnnisleyis 16 Nov. 1624. This possibly refers to an excambion of lands, Fulzemont lying near and to the north-east of Craig.

Again John G., younger of Craig, and Jean G., his spouse, got sasine in Contlach 8 Dec. 1626: and a Reversion of Nether Pleuchton of Craig was granted by George G., younger of Tillachaudy, to John G., yr. of Craig, 29 Aug. 1630.

This laird of Craig, according to the Balb. M.S., went to France with a company of soldiers and died there in 1643.

Harperfield also mentions that he died in France and in the same year.

The Petition of John Gordon of Craig, his father (given above), shows that the young laird with his wife and children were banished,

and had abandoned the kingdom in 1630, and that the father asked leave to join his son abroad—their troubles all "for religion."

Writing of the son Harperfield says that "the familie having suffered much by the violent persecutions of the times on account of its adherence to the Roman Catholic religion, he retired to France, where he commanded a company of the Scots Guards. His estate in Scotland was sequestrated, and by an Act of the Privy Council he was allowed only an annuity of £1000 Scots (£83 6s. 8d.) while he continued abroad. This, no doubt, refers to "the tuo parte of the poore estate allotted to the son and his family" in the father's petition.

In "Castles of Aberdeenshire" I find as follows:—"The family having suffered much during the strife of parties in the reign of Charles I., the laird retired to France, where he served in the Company of the Gens d'Armes commanded by Lord Gordon, afterwards the 2nd Marquis of Huntly": and then reference is made to his marriage. I suppose these Gens d'Armes were the Body-guard of the French King, and the date about 1624.

The Records of the Privy Council show the proceedings taken against Papists in the years 1624 and 1628. The introduction to vol. XIII. refers to the case of John Gordon of Craig, meaning John Gordon, younger of Graig. He was fiar of Craig.

A charge was issued on 1 July 1624 for the appearance before the Council of John Gordon of Craig, "ane excommunicat trafficquing papist," and charges to the Bishop and Magistrates of Aberdeen for searching for papists lurking in the burgh, and detection of persons resetting them. (Introduction p. LXXXV.) On 20 July following caution in £1000 was found by James Gordon of Lesmoir, his father-in-law, who appeared in person, and became surety for John Gordon of Craig's appearance on 29th instant, and that he would conform to the true religion, and obtain relaxation from the excommunication he lies under, or else leave the country. This caution was signed at Edinburgh on 22 July, and the signature is "J. Gordoun of Lesmoir." (Reg. Priv. Co., vol. XIII., p. 541, and Introduction, p. LXXXV.)

The laird of Craig, younger, appears to have failed to put in an appearance, and to have gone abroad. I find in "Records of Aboyne," p. 530, that Lord Gordon, or the Earl of Enzie as he was known at the time, was in 1624 appointed Captain of the Scots Bodyguard to the French King. Within a few months of the young laird of Craig's arrival in France he invoked his own King's protection and aid. He sent to the Lords of the Council a supplication for permission to return home in order that he might attend to his private affairs. This was considered by the Privy Council at Edinburgh on 27 Jany. 1625.

In support of his petition he submitted a letter from the King granting him "libertie and license to return into our Kingdome of Scotland, thair to remayne and do his lawfull affaires as fully as any other our subjects." It also discharged him and his cautioners of all

their obligations. The letter was given "Under our hand and seale at Whitehall" the last day of December 1624.

In connection with this laird of Craig's going abroad in 1624, I may now give Gilbert Blackhall's account of his own meeting with him in Paris. He speaks of the incident having occurred "wel threttie and four years ago," *i.e.*, before he wrote his narration, which may date from about the time of the King's Restoration. He says— "The laird of Craig, Gordon, and his ladye loged them in the great Rue of St Jacques Faubourg, at the sign of the Golden Fleur-de-lys, forder out than St Magloir, on the other syd of the street. I did go first to visit the laird of Craig, and I did find Mr Forbes with him and his ladye, who did ryse up and tak me to another place in that same roume, and enterteane me until Mr Forbes went away; and then her husband did come to me, and after some general discours, did ask me if I had seen Father Parsons that morning? Then, said he, I will tell you why I did ask if you had seen him, and withal put you upon your gard, for Mr Forbes and Mr Pendrich are mynded to put an affront upon you." This refers to a long and rather obscure story, from which it seems that this Mr Forbes considered himself wronged and calumniated: it occupies several pages.

The editor of Blackhall's "Breiff Narration," Mr John Stuart, says in the Preface, "Even in the reign of Charles I. the ancient faith was held by the Marquis of Huntly and the chief men of his own name, such as the Lord Aboyne, the lairds of Craig, Gicht, Abergeldie, Lesmore, and Letterfourie; by the Earl of Errol and his kinsmen of Delgaty and Fetterletter, and by many other ancient and powerful houses such as the Leslies, Bissets, and Blackhalls in the Garioch, the Irvings and Couttses in Mar, the Cheynes, Cons, and Turings in Buchan. (Editor's Preface, page XX.)

Somewhat later Father Gilbert Blakhal, priest, evidently managed to visit at Craig pretty regularly in the course of his secret visitations at the houses of Catholics in Aberdeenshire about 1630: he contrived to pay without detection many visits to especially Sophia Hay, the widow of John, Viscount Aboyne, and her young daughter, who were living at Aboyne Castle, her dower house (see Rec. of Aboyne) till that lady's death, when he assisted the young lady to get over to France. The Marchioness of Huntly, Lady Henrietta Stewart, was obliged when nearly 70 years of age, to betake herself to France, owing to renewed persecution for non-conformity in 1641, and died there in the following year. (Rec. of Aboyne, p. 526.)

The laird of Craig's petition to return home, together with the King's letter granting his request was submitted to the Lords of the Council, who granted him their permission to remain in Scotland on his good behaviour; and they ordered His Majesty's letters to be registered. (Reg. Priv. Co., date 27 January 1625, Vol. XIII., pp. 683-4.)

Within 4 years afterwards he was again in trouble for religion.

The name of "John Gordoun, appearand of Craig" is found in a long list of persons in the dioceses of Aberdeen and Moray, that were under censure of excommunication in 1628. The Marquis of Huntly, and Lord Lovat, Sheriff Principal of Elgin and Forres, were ordered to apprehend them, and proclamation was directed to be made at Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Elgin, Inverness, and diverse other places against resetting or supplying these excommunicated persons: dated at Holyrood House 2 Dec. 1628. (Reg. Priv. Co., 2nd series, vol. II., pp. 498 and 502.)

The petition of his father to join his son abroad, in order that by joining their slender means they might live more comfortably together than they could separately, has been given already.

The only note from the sasine Registers that I have, which distinctly relates to this family between 29 Augt. 1630 and 19 Aug. 1651 is as follows:—

Janet G., spouse to John G. of Craig in Mains of Auchindoir 14 Nov. 1639.

This may refer to some provision made for her.

The following may refer to some members of this family:—

Robert G. *in* Auchindoir and spouse got sasine in Tillyangus. 20 Nov. 1638.

Robert G., at Mill of Auchindoir, and son got sasine in Langlands. ? 28 March 1654.

See as to *a* Robert Gordon and a tombstone at Auchindoir some pages further on. This Robert may have been of the Tillyangus family.

John G. *in* Tillybraon [probably Tillybreen in Rec. of Aboyne] and spouse got sasine in Over Fulzemont. 1654.

I think, however, this was probably the brother of George G. of Tilphoudie, or his son. (See "Rec. of Aboyne," p. 270.)

The Petition of John Gordon of Craig, dated circa 1630, shows the unfortunate and impoverished position of the family, and what they suffered for refusing to conform to what was called "the true religion," and that John Younger and his wife were banished from their home and country, with an allowance of part of the free rental, and this during the Civil War, when many tenants were probably not able to pay any rent.

Apparently up to the end of his life little of the family estate had been actually alienated, and the name of his father, the old laird, is not found as being heavily burdened with debts in the "Book of Annual Rentaris and Wadsetters."

I presume it was to this laird of Craig that Dr Arthur Johnstone of the Caskieben family addressed one of his poetical epistles in Latin verse, published, I believe, in 1637. The argument is given in Musa Latina Aberdonensis, Vol. I., p. 304, and is to the following effect:—

"Why, O Gordon, hide away from town, a prisoner among Cabrach heather, among rocks and dens? what signify thy parts, thy learning, thy travel, if they are all to rust and fust unused? no civilised creature near you, nothing but foxes' holes, the fowls of heaven, and deaf cold rocks: under hoar frost always, and even under the dogstar, a country clad in snow":—

"Barbara gens tota est, et inhospita terra, pruinis
Semper, et acstivo sub cane, mersa nive.
Ah fuge, nec populis nec amicas frugibus oras
Et procul hinc musis et tibi quære larem."

"Seek thou another home for the muses and for thee."

He then refers to the example of Tully, Naso, Virgil, Catullus, &c., in preferring Rome to their homes, and urges him to follow it. "Thy country calls for thy gifts, and Themis summons thee to her aid;" he points out how Achilles went into hiding for a while till Ulysses rescued and restored him to Greece, and concludes "A parallel gift in thee, let Scotia owe to me."

This laird must have had, as his comrade in his troubles, William Gordon of Knockespock, his neighbour; both had to live in France, each commanded a company of troops in the service of the King of France, and they are said to have both died in 1643. Craig's service under the French King is thus referred to in Spalding's "History of the Troubles in Scotland," page 316; edit. 1830, under the year 1643—

"The laird of Craigie, Gordon, Donald Farquharson, and —— Gordon, younger of Arradoul, brought into Old Aberdeen about 16th February eighty soldiers, who shipped at Aberdeen with the laird of Craigie for France."

John Gordon, 5th Laird of Craig, married in his father's lifetime Jean, daughter of James Gordon, afterwards Sir James, first Baronet of Lesmoir, and by her had issue—

I. Francis, 6th Laird of Craig.

II. Anna or Anne, who married James Gordon, 4th Laird of Terpersie; she died apparently in 1671; her tombstone is in Tullynessle Churchyard.

Jean Gordon was previously married, and was the relict of George Gordon, fiar of Coclarachie; as spouse to John Gordon, younger of Craig, she, along with her husband, got sasine in Johnsleys, 1 Sept. 1618; again as his spouse she got sasine in Contlach, Auchinleith, &c., 27 Sept. 1624; they both got sasine in Contlach again, 8 Dec. 1626; and she got sasine as spouse to John G. of Craig, in Mains of Auchindoir, 14 Nov. 1639.

In confirmation of the above I add the following authorities:— According to the Balbithan MS., this laird married the laird of Lesmoir's daughter, relict of George Gordon, fiar of Coclarachie, with

whom he begat a son and daughter, viz.:—Francis Gordon, laird of Craig, and his sister Anna, married to James Gordon, laird of Terpersie.

Harperfield's account is generally to the same effect, viz., that he married, in his father's life-time, Jean, daughter of Sir James Gordon of Lesmoir; issue: 1 son, Francis, heir apparent, and 1 daughter, who married James Gordon of Terpersie.

John Gordon, Vth laird of Craig, died in France in 1643.

FRANCIS GORDON VI. OF CRAIG,

Son of John V. of Craig.

Francis, VIth laird of Craig, seems not to have been infeft in the estate of his father (no doubt owing to religious disabilities) till 1650, when King Charles II., having ventured to return to Scotland in the hope of securing the support of his subjects in that country, made an effort to be established on the throne by his coronation on 1 January following; but his hopes were shattered for a long time in September 1651 at the battle of Worcester.

He was served heir general of John Gordon of Crage, his grandfather, 12 Sept. 1655 (Retours).

Balbithan says of this laird, "Francis, being bred in France, returned to his native country and heritage, and being Popish married first the laird of Pitfodels daughter (Menzies)"; and then he gives their issue: he continues, "and after her death he married Gordon of Corrachrie's daughter," and gives their issue. He adds that Francis, laird of Craig, died shortly after the Revolution, 1688-89.

Harperfield states as to this laird, "Infeft in the estate of Craig by Precept from the Superiors, 27 Augt. 1650, he was educated in France, and by the intestine Commotion of the country [Scotland] during the Civil War, he lost irretrievably some part of the family estate. Upon his return to Scotland in 1652 he married 1st Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Gilbert Menzies of Pitfodels": he then gives their issue, and continues, "he married in 1664 Jean, daughter of William Gordon of Corrachrie" (perhaps of the Tillachowdie family, to whom Correchrie belonged in 1623, see "Rec. of Aboyne," p. 275), and gives their issue two sons.

Elizabeth Menzies was probably a niece of Margaret Menzies, who was daughter of another Sir Gilbert Menzies, and wife of James Gordon, the grandson of Sir James Gordon, 1st Bart. of Letmoir: the said James and Margaret Menzies, his spouse, had sasine in Newtoun-Garie, 19 March 1631. The connection by marriage between the families of Letmoir and Craig was renewed from time to time.

In "Castles of Aberdeenshire" we find that during the struggles of the Civil War, which preceded the death of King Charles I., considerable portions of their "[*i.e.*, the lairds of Craig's] estates were lost to the family, particularly Johnnisleyis, Rhynie, Ardglennie, Drimmeis, Diracroft, &c.," also that "having been educated in France, the laird returned to Scotland and married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Gilbert Menzies of Pitfodels."

There is a shield on the walls of Craig with the initials F G and and E M and the date 1667, but the probable date of their marriage is 1652.

In "Antiq. Abdn and Banff," vol. iv., p. 315, is given the "Localitie of the Parochin of Kildrummie and Auchindoir," from the General Register House, Edinburgh, circa 1650; this must have been for determination of the minister's stipend.

Among "Particulars" given are the following relative to the Estate of Craig at that date, showing how heavily it was affected by wadsetts:—

"Item, the landis of the Mains of Craige, Cantley, and Auchenleithe, belonging in heritage to Francis Gordone of Craige peyis fyve chalderis four bollis, threttein pecks half peck: threttie pundis money." (Ibid, IV. p. 316).

"Item, wadsett to George Gordon of Tillachowdie be the said Francis Wpper Ord, the landis adjacent to the Mains and Milne of Auchindoir, Vhiteley, Boiges and Tolofhin, peyis three chalderis tuelf bollis eght peckis, *inde* tuo bollis, fyftein peckis, half a fourt pairt—in money is twentie tuo pundis 13 shillingis 9 penneis."

"Item, wadsett be the said Francis Gordone to Wm. Lainge in Borflatt the Longlandis peyis nyne bollis fyve peckis ane fourt pairt ane quarter of ane four pairt, *inde* nyne peckis half fourt pairt ane quarter: money is three pund nyne shillingis 4 penneis."

"Item, wodsett be him to Patrick Scherar the toune of Creack peyis ane chalder ten bollis ten peckis tuo four pairtis: *inde* ane boll ten peckis thrie four pairtis:—money is nyne pundis 19 shillings 11 penneis the fourt pairt of a pennie."

"Item, wodsett be the said Francis to Alexr. Gordone of Merdrum the landis of Braland Ryal, Vpper and Nether Fulzemont peyis fyve chalder ten peckis tuo four pairtis: *inde* four bollis fourteen peckis, half fourt pairt: money is threttie pundis four shillings 8 penneis."

"Item wodsett be the said Francis to Maister James Reid in Aberdeine the Newtoune of Auchindoir, peyis ane chalder four bolls: *inde* ane boll thrie peckis fourt pairt half fourt pairt: money is sevin pundis ten shillings."

"Item wodsett be him to Robert Smythe the Nether Ord peyis ane chalder four bollis: *inde* thrie peckis ane fourt pairt half ane fourt pairt: money is seven pund ten shillingis."

In the above valuation nearly all parts of the Estate are mentioned as wodsett, except the Castle and policies, the Mains of Craig, Cantley, and Auchenleithe: nearly all the places mentioned are marked in the Ordnance Survey map, six inch scale.

Some notes from the Sasine Register may now be given :—

Robert Gordon at Mill of Auchindoir and sons in Langlands.	28 March 1654.
[Note: James Gordon at Mill of Auchindoir in 1696, who will be mentioned further on, was probably one of these sons].	
John G. in Tillibraon and spouse in Over Fulzemont [perhaps a brother of George G. of Tilphoudie, the son of this George. See "Rec. of Aboyne," pp. 270-71.]	26 Apr. 1654.
Renunciation by Tutors of Christian and Marjorie Gordones to Francis G. of Craigie of lands of Over Fulzemont [proby. daughters of Alex. G. of Merdrum].	8 Sept. 1655.
George G. *in* Nether Fulzemont in Over Ord, &c.	22 Dec. 1657.
Francis G. and spouse in Contlach.	20 Jan. 1675.
Francis G. in Auchindoir.	16 Feb. 1675
Renunciation to Francis G. Yr. of Craigie.	May 1675.
Francis G. of Craig in Auchnabo.	5 June 1679.
Renunciation John G. in Langlands, and Robt. G. only lawful son and heir to the late Alex. G. sometime of Tillybralane to Francis G. [Yr.] of Craig, and Agnes Ogilvie, his spouse in Langlands.	24 Nov. 1679.

Fortunately, most of these lands seem not to have been permanently alienated, as may be gathered from the Poll book 1696, which will be referred to further on.

In the list of the noblemen and gentlemen of the shire of Aberdeen, who in obedience to the desire of General Monk convened within the laich Tolbooth of Aberdeen on 2 Dec. 1659, and by a plurality of votes elected the Lord Aboyne as Commissioner to go to Berwick, in accordance with the desire expressed in Monk's letter, the name of this laird is entered among the earliest as "Laird of Craig, Gordone." No doubt he welcomed the King on his restoration, but he probably lived to see the Revolution 30 years afterwards.

I may here refer to two old tombstones at Auchindoir, described in Jervise's "Epitaphs and Inscriptions" II., p. 210. "The oldest, which is ornamented with crossed bones, a sand-glass, and a bell presents the following traces of an inscription :— . . . . . GORDON . LAUFUL . SPOUS . TO MARGARET STRACHAN . WHO DEPARTED . THIS . LIFE . AUGUST . 1720 . AGED.—9.

"The erector of this is said to have been James Gordon, tenant of Mill of Auchindoir, whose daughter Elizabeth was twice married, first to William Forbes, and next to Charles Lumsden.

"By the former, who succeeded to the farm, she had with other children a son, William, who became a coppersmith, and burgess of Aberdeen." He then tells how this son made a fortune, and was the father of William Forbes, who bought the estate of Callander in Stirlingshire in 1783.

What follows is of more immediate interest.

"The next inscription refers to Mrs Forbes' sister and family—Upon the tombstone is a shield charged in pale sinister, 3 boars' heads between a cross-crosslet with 2 crescents in base, and the same arms in dexter except that the two crescents are in chief. The cross-crosslet probably shows a connection with the Craig branch of the Gordons."—It runs

"In memory of ELSPET GORDON, who died at Brae of Scurdargue, Rhynie, July 12, 1742, aged 50 years; and her husband, ROBERT GORDON, late farmer there, who died April 10, 1754, aged 68 years. Also, their second son GEORGE, late farmer in Mains of Rhynie, who died June 28, 1784, aged 63 years; and of his spouse, JANE, only daughter of George and Isobel Gordon, formerly in Mains of Rhynie, who died March 21st 1810, in the 31st year of her age."

It will be observed how much the Gordons in this district intermarried. I have some reason to believe that the Gordons in Brae of Scurdargue, and some of them later in Mains of Rhynie, were of the Gordons of Haddo or Haddauch, very near the Kirk of Cabrach, about 5 miles from Craig. I do not think that the arms with a cross-crosslet point to the Craig family, but it may point to Gordons of the Tillyangus family, cadets of Craig. Jervise mentions at p. 209 another old tombstone at Auchindoir with arms which include a double cross-crosslet, &c., which I think he rightly ascribes to a marriage with a Leith. I have no doubt that this last stone was erected to James Gordon of Tillyangus and his wife, a Leith of Harthill, and propose to give fuller particulars hereafter under Gordon of Tillyangus.

For my present purpose I may note that Robert Gordon *in* Auchindoir and spouse got sasine in Tillyangus, 20 Nov. 1638, and Robert G. at Mill of Auchindoir and son got sasine in Langlands, 28 March 1654; it seems to me not improbable that James Gordon at Mill of Auchindoir, who, as Jervise states, was "the reputed erector" of the old monument was Robert's son; and thus the cross-crosslet might get into the arms on the stone to memory of James Gordon's daughter. I admit, however, that it is mainly conjecture.

Francis Gordon, VIth of Craig, married, according to the Balbithan MS., first the laird of Pitfodel's daughter (Menzies), with whom he begot:—

I. Francis [seventh] laird of Craig.

He married secondly, Gordon of Corrachrie's daughter by whom he had

II. John, who was a page of honour to the first Duchess of Gordon.

Harperfield gives the approximate date of his first marriage by telling us that it was "on his return to Scotland in 1652;" and that his wife was Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Gilbert Menzies of Pitfodels, and that besides the son (Francis) she bore him a daughter, viz.:—

III. Agnes, who married James Leith of Treefield; also, that he [i.e. Francis] married secondly in 1664 Jean, daughter of William Gordon of Corrachrie, by whom he had 2 sons, viz.:

IV. John.

V. Alexander, a merchant in Holland.

He adds here "no representatives." [Query *males.*]

It is probable that the latter had a daughter, who married Alexander Gordon, Collector of Customs in Aberdeen, of the Lesmoir family, whose son became Sir Alexander Gordon, 7th Bart. of Lesmoir; for in his Pedigree of the Lesmoir family Harperfield says that this Alexander Gordon (the Collector) married Isobel, daughter of Alexander Gordon, merchant in Rotterdam, younger son of Francis Gordon of Craig.

I have some linen traycloths spun by Alexander Gordon's wife with the arms of Lesmoir, Baronets of Nova Scotia, and the badge and the initials $_{A}S_{G}$ and his crest, and her name "Isobel Gordon" 1758 all woven therein.

The William Gordon of Corrachrie mentioned above was probably of the Tillachoudie family, and the laird who sold Corrachrie to John Lumsden of the Cushnie family.

Francis Gordon VIth laird of Craig died probably about 1690.

FRANCIS GORDON VII. OF CRAIG,

Son of Francis VI. of Craig.

Francis, VII. laird, eldest son of his father by his first marriage, succeeded about 1690. I cannot find any retour of his service as heir; but he and his wife are mentioned in the following sasine, while he was really "younger of Craig."

"Renunciation John Gordon in Langlands and Robert Gordon, only lawful son and heir to the late Alexander Gordon sometime of Tillybralane to Francis Gordon of Craig and Agnes Ogilvie, his spouse of Langlands 24 Nov. 1679."

This John Gordon was probably a son of the Robert Gordon at

Mill of Auchindoir mentioned as getting sasine in Langlands 28 March 1654: a reversion of Langlands had been granted to John G., younger of Craig on 2 April 1630. I suspect these were transactions among relatives. Braland is very near Wheidlemont.

Some interesting details about this laird and his family are given in the Poll Book or List of Pollable Persons in Aberdeenshire 1696. We find there "The Laird of Craig the greatest heritor in the Parish of Auchindoir;" "his valuation £720 [the whole valuation of said Paroch being £1322 11s."] The laird's poll £12 and 6s., the lady 6s., Francis, his son, 16 years of age, William and Alexander, his sons, Agnes, aged 19, Mary, aged 18, Elizabeth, aged 10, Jane and Barbara, all his daughters poll 6s. each.

This shows that his wife was still living in 1696, and that he then had, besides the issue given in the Balb. MS., two other sons, William and Alexander, and another daughter, Jane: further, that Agnes was the eldest, Mary the second, and that Elizabeth was much younger than either of these, instead of being the eldest.

It shows further, that the laird had still a good landed estate.

We also learn something of the farms and tenants on part of the Craig estate. The milne of Auchindoir had as tenant James Gordon, gentleman farmer; Newtoune of Auchindoir, John Gordon, gentleman farmer; John Warrack and Thomas his son were tenants in Tolloffin; in Bogs were three tenants; Whitehillock two tenants; Cairnfuroch one tenant; Longlands one tenant; Creak three tenants; Crofts of Auchindoir two tenants; Contlach five tenants; Auchinleith one tenant; Over Fulzemont five tenants; Nether Fulzemont five tenants; Brankind [Query Braland] one tenant; and Nether-oard [Nether Ord] one tenant.—(Poll Book, Vol. I., pp. 505 et sequent.) There must have been a great number of very small holdings, possibly owing to several bad seasons, and tenants of large farms having been obliged to give them up.

I have no notes from the Poll Book as to any lands in Rhynie or Kildrummie belonging to Craig at that date, but it is interesting to compare the above extracts with those from the Sasine Registers already given.

Part of the Parish of Auchindoir seems in 1696 to have belonged to a John Lumsden of the Cushnie family, who also bought Corrachrie: he is entered as a heritor, "Willim Terpersie's interest," and is called "Terpersie, *alias* John Lumsden": his valuation is £180: his son and grandson had Auchindoir till 1782, when it was sold.—("Thanage of Fermartyn," p. 628.)

Some of the places mentioned above in 1696 with the names of the tenants had been previously wodsetted, viz., by 1650.

Balbithan tells us of this laird that he accompanied the Earl of Mar, Superior of the estate of Craig, in 1715, and was wounded and taken prisioner in a skirmish at Dunfermling 24 Oct. 1715.

In "Castles of Aberdeenshire," p. 33, there is a somewhat fuller account, which is as follows:—

"Francis Gordon of Craig, joined the Standard of the Stuarts in 1715. In the month of October of that year the Earl of Mar sent a detachment consisting of two hundred infantry and a hundred horsemen under the command of Gordon of Glenbucket to occupy Dunfermling; but information having been given to the Duke of Argyll, he ordered a detachment of cavalry to make a rapid night march, and if possible take the Gordons unaware. Argyll's cavalry found Glenbucket at five o'clock in the morning entirely unprepared. The surprise was complete, many were killed: a rout ensued, and among the prisoners taken were Gordon of Craig, Gordon, younger of Aberdour, Gordon of Mill of Kincardine, and other gentlemen. The laird of Craig was conveyed to the Castle of Stirling, where he died of his wounds soon afterwards in 1716.

He married, according to the Balb. MS., "My Lord Banff (Ogilvy) his eldest sister: with whom he begat sons and daughters: his eldest son, Francis Gordon, [eighth] laird of Craig: one daughter married the Barron of Lesmurdie (Stuart); another, Mary, married Mr George Skene, parson of Kinkell; another Barbara."

"Their father, the said Francis, was taken prisoner at Sheriffmuir, and died at Stirling, 1716."

Harperfield gives a fuller and more precise account: he says that "this laird married Agnes Ogilvie, daughter of George, second Lord Banff: issue one son and four daughters, viz.:—

I. Francis, heir apparent [afterwards eighth laird.]
II. Elizabeth, married Alexander Stewart of Lesmurdie.
III. Mary, married George Skene, parson of Kinkell.
IV. Agnes, married Charles Gordon of Blelack.
V. Barbara.

But the Poll Book already quoted shows that he had three sons and four daughters, and as it gives the ages of several of them, it shows that they were born in the following order, viz.:—

I.	Agnes,	aged 19 in 1695-6.		
II.	Mary,	„ 18	„	
III.	Francis,	„ 16	„	[Afterwards VIIIth laird.]
IV.	William,	„ ?	„	
V.	Alexander,	„ ?	„	
VI.	Elizabeth,	„ 10	„	
VII.	Jane,	„ ?	„	
VIII.	Barbara,	„ ?	„	

FRANCIS GORDON VIII. OF CRAIG,

Son of Francis VII. of Craig.

Francis, VIIIth laird of Craig, succeeded his father when about 35 years of age in 1716, and appears to have survived him by only about 11 years.

There is no Retour of his services as heir. I have found hardly any information about him except what relates to his marriages and issue, and there are discrepancies in the details of these.

I give Harperfield's account first: I take it to be more correct than some others, and it has been adopted by the author of the letter press in "Castles of Aberdeenshire."

According to that authority "he married first a daughter of Barclay of Towie and widow of John Gordon of Rothiemay, no issue: secondly a daughter of Forbes of Balfluig by a daughter of Lord Banff his cousin, with issue, viz.:—

I. John, heir apparent.

"He married thirdly Catherine Campbell, widow of Patrick Russell of Montcoffer, issue

II. Francis, died in the service of the King of Naples.

III. William, Merchant in Banff, no issue."

Balbithan states that this laird married first Balfluig's daughter (Forbes) with whom he begat a son, John Gordon [ninth] laird of Craig: that he married the lady Towie Barclay to his second wife: and after her death he married the Lady Moncoffer, with these two last he had no succession;" but in a parenthesis there is added in the M.S., "By the last he had two sons, Francis and William"—probably this was added by Mr C. E. Dalrymple.

Both authorities add that he died in England in 1727.

A fragment of the Proney M.S. may also be given here, but there are several palpable errors in it; the first Francis mentioned in it is the one who died in 1716: it runs

"Francis Gordon, laird of Craig, married Elizabeth Murray [should be Menzies], daughter of [ ], whose name and arms stand above the garden door, by whom he had William [should be Francis], who married [ ] Ogilvy, daughter to Lord Banff."

"His son Francis married 1st Jean [should be Elizabeth] Barclay, daughter to the laird of Towie, but had no issue: his 2nd wife was [ ] Forbes, daughter to the laird of Balfluig, by whom he had John, who succeeded him, and Francis, who died in Russia; his 3rd wife was [ ] Campbell, daughter to [ ], by whom there was no issue. John, his eldest son, married Ann Reid, daughter to Reid of Haughton, by whom he had issue John, George, Francis, and one daughter Barbara."

Catherine Campbell seems to have been the daughter of Colin Campbell of Lundie, who acquired part of Montcoffer from Sir Alexander Abercromby of Birkenbog about 1676; the said Colin's wife having been Helen Abercrombie, apparently of the Glassaugh family. Catherine married Patrick or Peter Russell, who acquired part of Montcoffer in 1680: he had also some salmon fishings in the Deveron: he died in 1713, and was succeeded by his son Alexander. (See Notes on Moncoffer in a Paper by Dr Cramond, Cullen, read to Banffshire Field Club 13th Nov. 1901.) Patrick's relict Catherine married Francis Gordon, eighth laird of Craig, as his third wife, and Francis died in 1727.

In the Cairnborrow genealogy, as given by Balbithan, we find that John Gordon of Rothiemay married Elizabeth Barclay, heritrix of Towie, and got with her the lands of Towie.

On 3 February 1693, a charter was granted to Elizabeth Barclay, designed lady of Towie, and John Gordon, her husband, in liferent, and to Patrick Barclay, their only son, whom failing the other heirs male of Elizabeth, then to her heirs female. John Gordon of Rothiemay seems to have died within about 5 years afterwards; for Patrick Barclay alias Gordon of Rothiemay and Towie was retoured heir of John G. of Rothiemay, his father in an annual rent of £104 of the town and lands of Glenbucket and Fairntoul 5 Oct. 1698: and Patrick Gordon or Barclay of Towie was retoured heir to his grandfather Patrick B. of Towie, who died ——— ———, Heir special in Blairmonmouth, Crimongorth, &c., on appraisement. (Decennial Retours Aberdeenshire 20 July 1712.)

These details are interesting, but do not throw much light on doubtful points; but it is at least probable that Elizabeth Barclay, relict of John Gordon, Rothiemay, was first wife of Francis of Craig, and bore no children to him.

The following is, however, I believe reliable. There is a shield with the family arms above the gateway at Craig, adjoining but of later date than the Castle: also the motto BYDAND and the date 1726, said to be the year in which this gateway was built. Under the coat of arms is cut

17 FG EB AF KC 26

It seems a fair presumption that these initials are those of his 3 wives in their order: this agrees with Harperfield's account. I made a note of the initials given above, and of the date 1726 at Craig myself in July 1895.

I understand that on the same gateway there is another shield of earlier date, viz., 1667, bearing the arms of Gordon of Craig, with the motto "Bydand," and the date 1667, in the time of the VIth laird.

Francis the VIII. laird had issue as stated by Harperfield quoted above, and died in September 1727. (See Retour of his Son John, in Services of Heirs.)

JOHN GORDON IX. OF CRAIG,

Son of Francis VIII. of Craig.

JOHN, ninth laird of Craig, was the eldest son of Francis, VIIIth laird, probably by A—— Forbes, daughter of the laird of Balfluig, a property near Alford, where the old Castle is still standing. The first laird of Balfluig, John Forbes, was, according to Lumsden's "Hist. of the Forbeses," a son of John Forbes of Leslie, a son of William Forbes of Monymusk, who was grandson of William Forbes of Corsindae. The lands of Balfluig were erected into a barony, called the Barony of Alford, and a new charter thereof granted in 1702 in favour of John Forbes and George Forbes, his son. George was succeeded by his son John, who made up his titles in 1742, and appears to have settled as a merchant in Rotterdam; and in 1753 he sold the barony to Francis Farquharson of Haughton. ("Castles of Aberdeenshire," p. 14.)

John Gordon, IX. laird, was retoured heir special to his father, Francis Gordon of Craig, who died —— Sept. 1727, in Auchindore, with its mill, Fulziements, Creak, Mains of Craig, Langlands, &c., Aberdeenshire, 8th April 1729 (Decenn. Retours): this shows that there was still a compact family estate.

We find that according to the Balbithan MS. this laird married the Lady Auchlyne, with whom he begat three sons and a daughter: the names of the children are not given, but in a paragraph added in brackets to that MS. "his eldest son John" is mentioned as "eleventh laird of Craig" (or tenth as I reckon).

The Lady Auchlyne was Anne Reid, who was previously the second wife of James Gordon of Auchlyne or of Auchlyne and Newbigging, a cadet of the Terpersey family: she had married this James Gordon in 1728, but he died in 1729: soon afterwards she married John Gordon of Craig. (Knockespock Pedigree.)

According to Gordon of Harperfield this laird, whom he describes as eldest son by his father's *second* marriage (see under VIIIth laird), viz., by Balfluig's daughter, married Anne, daughter of Patrick Reid of Haughton. Issue, 3 sons and 3 daughters, viz.:—

I. JOHN, heir apparent [afterwards Xth laird].
II. GEORGE, an officer R.N., who died in the East Indies in 1758.
III. FRANCIS, an officer in the 88th Regiment. [Probably Campbell's Highlanders, raised 1759, disbanded 1763.]
IV. BARBARA, married Brown of Newhills [i.e., minister of the parish of Newhills: she married 20 July 1757, died 1798, aged 65 (Scott's Fasti). From Barbara was descended James Shirreff's Gordon XIV. of Craig].

Harperfield further tells us that the IX. laird died at Leith in 1740: the same date is added in brackets in the Balb. MS.

JOHN GORDON X. OF CRAIG,

Son of John IX. of Craig.

JOHN, Xth laird of Craig, succeeded his father, John. He was retoured as heir general to his father, 22 January 1743: he seems to have been only about 9 years old when his father died.

He was for many years Sheriff Clerk of Aberdeenshire, and in his later years his son, James, was associated with him in that office (Aberdeen Almanac, 1787). He was laird of Craig for the long period of about 60 years.

He married, according to the Harperfield genealogy, *first* in 1757 Ann, eldest daughter of James Gordon of Banchory [i.e., Banchory Devenick], by whom he had issue 2 sons and 2 daughters, viz..—

I. JAMES, born 29 Sept. 1767, heir apparent.
II. FRANCIS, born 23 June 1772.
III. MARGARET.
IV. ANNE.

Secondly in 1775 Mary, eldest daughter of Charles Cumine of Kininmonth, by Sophia, eldest daughter of the fifteenth Lord Forbes, without issue.

An addition to the Balbithan MS. bears that this laird, John, married Ann, the eldest daughter of James Gordon of Banchory, and by her has children Margaret, Ann, James, and Francis Gordons. He was married secondly to Maria Cumine, eldest daughter of Charles Cumine of Kininmonth. Died 1 March 1800 years.

James Gordon of Banchory, father of his first wife, was 3rd son of James Gordon of Ardmeallie, being descended from the second son of George Gordon of Coclarachie, a descendant of George Gordon of Milton of Noth, a younger son of Patrick Gordon of Fulzemont, a common ancestor.

James Gordon, Ardmeallie's son, became a merchant in Aberdeen, and probably made money: he acquired by purchase the property of Banchory, in parish of Banchory Devenick. He married twice, 1st Margaret, a daughter of Robert Cuming of Birness, by his second wife Mary Skene, 2nd child of Andrew Skene of Dyce, and sister of Barbara Cuming, who married [in 1731] Dr James Gordon of Straloch or Birness, the grandfather of General Gordon Cuming Skene of Pitlurg and Dyce. (See "Memorials of the Family of Skene," New Spalding Club, p. 87): he married 2ndly Mary, daughter of Major James Buchan of Auchmacoy, date of their marriage contract 1739. (See Dr Temple's "Thanage of Fermartyn," p. 535). By his first wife he had two daughters, viz.—Ann, who married John Gordon of Craig, and Elizabeth, who married George Moir of Scotstown. (From information supplied to me privately.)

By his 2nd wife, Mary Buchan, he had a daughter, who married

in 1768 Sir Alexander Bannerman of Elsick, 6th Bart. (See Burke's Peerage and Baronetage); and I understand a son, Thomas, who acquired the estate of Premnay. This Thomas was served heir general to his father, James G. of Banchory, S.H. 9 Nov.; 23 Nov. 1751. (Services of heirs.)

This laird of Craig died 1 March 1800.

JAMES GORDON XI. OF CRAIG,

Son of John X. of Craig.

James Gordon, eldest son of the 10th laird, succeeded his father in 1800. He was retoured heir to his father, John, as heir of provision and general dated 6 June 1800.

In 1787 he was joint Sheriff Clerk of Aberdeenshire with his father, and by 1801 was the Sheriff Clerk of that county. He was admitted an advocate at the Scottish Bar 27 Nov. 1790, but his work lay mostly in Aberdeen.

He also devoted much time and care to the improvement of the estate he inherited, particularly to planting the Den of Craig in a part of the country where there was then not much timber. It is described by Francis Douglas in his "Description of the East Coast of Scotland" as "covered with all kinds of useful thriving timber": and this writer, after referring to the ode addressed by Arthur Johnstone in his "Parerga ad Gordonium de Craig Auchindoir," adds that "were that writer now to see the Den of Craig, covered" (as above mentioned), "and so many other plantations coming forward to accommodate posterity, I am persuaded he would invoke his muse to do justice to the present proprietor, who, by his attention to the improvement of his estate, shows himself to be a good countryman." Douglas' book was printed in 1826. The trees flourished and added much to the amenity of the old Castle and lands. Many of them were blown down only a few years ago in an exceptionally severe gale; probably by this time none are left.

He died in 1852, having, like his father, been laird for very many years. A monument in the family burial place at the old kirk of Auchindoir has two marble slabs incased in free stone with the following inscription:—

[I.] "Here lie the remains of James Gordon of Craig, an Advocate at the Scottish Bar, and for more than half a century proprietor of the lands. Born 29 Sept. 1767, died 14 April 1852."

[II.] "In memory of Ann Elizabeth, daughter of John Johnstone of Alva in Stirlingshire, and spouse of James Gordon of Craig. Born 1 March 1776, died 26 March 1851." (Jervise's "Epitaphs and Inscriptions" II. p. 209.)

The second inscription records his marriage: he had no issue.

He appears to have made a settlement of the Estate of Craig, under which, failing issue of himself and male issue of his brother, Francis, the next laird, it was to pass, on the decease of his said brother, to the latter's daughter or daughters, but on her or their decease, to the descendant of John's aunt, Barbara Gordon. This will be referred to further on.

FRANCIS GORDON XII. OF CRAIG,

Second Son of John X. of Craig.

The next proprietor, Francis Gordon, the twelfth laird, succeeded his brother James.

He was born in 1772. While still a boy he got a commission in the army, as was not very unusual in the latter part of the eighteenth century. An Army List, dated 25th March 1785, shows that he was appointed an Ensign in the 68th Regiment, 6th October 1784: he must have either exchanged or been transferred to the 16th Regiment almost immediately: it is improbable that he ever joined,—perhaps he exchanged to half-pay, 16th Foot, for in an Army List dated 15th February 1787 his name appears in a list of officers on half-pay under 16th Foot, "Ensign Francis Gordon"; and in one of seventy years' later date, 1st April 1857 (shortly after his death, of which intimation could not have been received before publication), among the Ensigns on half-pay is the following entry—"16th Foot, Francis Gordon, rank in the Army 6th October 1784; placed on half-pay 23rd March 1785."

In an Army List of 1858 his name no longer appears.

In a List of the Freeholders of Aberdeenshire, date 1814, I find the names of "James Gordon of Craig" and "F. Gordon of Wheedlemont": this latter title was probably to qualify him as a voter in the county: in another list for 1823 I find entered, "Gordon of Kincardine." The latter property I believe he acquired by purchase from one of the Douglasses of the Tilquhilly family, probably my old friend John Douglass.

He was admitted an advocate in Aberdeen, and practised there.

He succeeded to Craig in 1852, and by that time was well up in years.

I had the pleasure of his acquaintance, and had a great respect and regard for him. Tall and erect, and courtly in his mien and manners, he looked like an old soldier, and was much respected. He showed me great kindness during the year 1854, when as a young man, about two years after I graduated at Cambridge, I went from

England to Aberdeenshire, and became his tenant for a year at Borrowstoun, which had formerly been an old-established inn, near the village of Kincardine O'Neil, with salmon fishing in the Dee and permission to shoot. Mrs Gordon, too, was very friendly and kindly, and I dined and lunched with them occasionally in their house at Golden Square and at Kincardine Lodge.

It was Mr Gordon who then lent me his copy of "Tables of Pedigree of the Family of Gordon in Scotland," by William Gordon, Esq. of Harperfield, LL.D., from which I then copied the main part, and the third Appendix, Pedigree of the Gordons of Lesmoir, and another with that of the House of Craig and of the Gordons of Coclarachie, which I have carefully kept till now. It was to this loan that I have traced my turn for research into the family history of several branches of the Gordons.

It was in that year, 1854, the Crimean War broke out, and when "Winter's troubles" commenced, officers were wanted as well as men for recruits, and Militia battalions were embodied: restrictions as to age were relaxed. I joined the Forfar and Kincardine Militia Artillery among the Senior Lieutenants when it was embodied in the spring of 1855, but had then already got the promise of a commission as Ensign in the Regulars, though I was about eight years beyond the average age for first joining.

When I went from Montrose—where the "Forfars" then were—to Aberdeen to say Good-bye to my friends and pay Mr Gordon my second half-year's rent, he very handsomely gave me £5 as a luck-penny to buy my sword on joining an Infantry Regiment. Within a very few weeks I was Gazetted to the 20th ("East Devonshires" in those days), and served with it from October to June 1856 in the Crimea. A year after our return home I exchanged into the 79th Highlanders, and with them took part in the suppression of the Indian Mutiny, including the siege and taking of Lucknow.

It was not my fortune to meet Mr Gordon again, as I was serving abroad during most of the interval up to his death. After I married, and was living on Deeside, having left the Service, I often met Mrs Francis Gordon when she was residing at Kincardine Lodge.

The XIIth laird, Francis Gordon, was twice married, 1st to Elizabeth, daughter of James Gordon of Rosieburn, Banffshire—not far from Ardmeallie—son of Alexander Gordon of Arradoul by his second wife, a daughter of George Gordon of Sheelagreen, and had by her two sons and three daughters, viz.:—

I. John, died young.

II. James, who was mentally incapacitated.

III. Elizabeth Shepherd, who married Captain Charles, Kinnaird Johnstone of the Alva family in 1834, and had issue. She succeeded to her father's property of Kincardine.

IV. Mary Johnstone, died young.
V. Andrina Skene, died young.

He married secondly Isabella, daughter of Lieut. Gen. John Gordon Cuming Skene of Pitlurg and Dyce, without issue.

James Gordon of Rosieburn, father of the first wife, had a small estate N.-E. of Aberchirder in Banffshire: his father was Alexander Gordon of Arradoul, who was the son of Robert Gordon *in* Lunan, in the parish of Speymouth, nearly opposite to Gordon Castle, and was descended from the Buckie family.

This Robert seems to have been the son of a William Gordon *in* Lunan, and grandson of William Gordon of Arradoul, the younger brother of John Gordon of Buckie, the latter William having been the father of Margaret Gordon, heiress of Fochabers, and wife of James Gordon of Knockespock.

The legitimacy of this William *in* Lunan seems open to question.

Arradoul, instead of passing to the son, William in Lunan, or to Margaret Gordon, seems to have passed into the possession of another William Gordon, brother of a John G. of Buckie, and nephew of the deceased William. This new laird's sons, James and Alexander, seem to have been successively lairds of Arradoul: the latter was served heir to his brother-german, Alexander, in Arradoull in 1673 (Retours I S Banff 23 July 1673), but shortly afterwards the estate seems to have been sold (or perhaps wadsetted) to a Mr Anderson. But ere long Alexander Gordon, son of Robert Gordon in Lunan, having married as his *first* wife Elizabeth Gordon, who is styled in a family pedigree "heiress of *Cairnfield*," acquired the lands of Arradoul, and had by her issue 3 daughters; she died in 1725, aged 31: *he married secondly* Jean Gordon, of whom below, and by his *second* marriage he had a son John, to whom he left both properties.

This John thus became of Cairnfield and Arradoul, and succeeded on his father's death 21 Feb. 1775, at the age of 87.

For much of the above information I am indebted to my friend the Rev. Stephen Ree, minister of Boharm, and also for a great part of the pedigree to General William Gordon, C.I.E., Ind. Staff Corps, a grandson of James of Rosieburn.

Alexander of Cairnfield and Arradoul's *second* wife, Jean Gordon, was daughter of George Gordon of Sheelagreen, and was descended from George Gordon of Rhynie and Sheelagreen, and so from George Gordon of Newtoun (a cadet of Lesmoir) by his wife Christian, daughter of George Gordon, third of Coclarachie, and his wife Bessie, daughter of James Duncan of Merdrum. The present proprietor of Cairnfield and Arradoul is descended from Alexander of Arradoul and his second wife, Jean Gordon.

In the burying-ground of the East and West Churches, Aberdeen, there is a tombstone bearing the following inscription:—

"Francis Gordon, Esq. of Craig and Kincardine,
Died 27th January 1857, aged 84.
Elizabeth his wife, died September 1822, aged 38, daughter
of James Gordon of Rosyburn.
Mary Johnstone, died October 1821,
Aged 8.
Andrina Skene, died January 1823,
Aged 4.
John, died February 2, 1824,
Aged 14.
James, died March 27, 1871,
Aged about 58.

Isabella, second wife of Francis Gordon, daughter of
Lieut.-Gen. Gordon-Cumming Skene of Pitlurg and Dyce, died in
Edinburgh 1st July 1877, aged 88."

As will be seen above, Mr Gordon died full of years early in 1857.

ELIZABETH SHEPHERD GORDON [Mrs JOHNSTONE-GORDON] XIII. OF CRAIG,

(Daughter of Francis, XIIth Laird.)

On the death of Francis, laird of Craig, his daughter, Elizabeth, wife of Captain Charles Kinnaird Johnstone, a younger son of Johnstone of Alva, succeeded to Craig as XIIIth proprietor: she and her husband assumed the additional surname of Gordon.

They were married in 1837, and had issue—

I. James Charles, born 1840, died at school at Cheltenham 1851.

II. Elizabeth Isabella, married Major Hugh Scott of Gala, and had issue—

(1) John Henry Francis Kinnaird Scott, now of Gala.
(2) Hugh J. E. Scott-Makdougall of Makerstoun, b. 1861, married 1893 Agnes Jenkinson, and has a son and two daughters.
(3) A daughter.
(4) Charles A. R., Major, South Wales Borderers.
(5) Madeline A. L., b. 1867, married 1895 Col. F. Davies, Grenadier Guards, and has a son and a daughter.

III. Mary, died 1863 at Nice.

IV. Anne Elizabeth Augusta, married in 1872 Robert Smythe Muir-Mackenzie, Colonel, late Roy. H. Arty., brother of

Sir Alex. Muir-Mackenzie of Delvine, Bart., with issue (besides Georgiana Frances, born 1874, died in infancy)—

(1) Geraldine Augusta, b. 12 Nov. 1878, died 5 March 1903.
(2) Cecily Emmeline, b. 1882.
(3) Sophia Helen, b. 1885.
(4) Robert Cecil, b. 19 Oct. 1891.

V. Emily, unmarried.

Mrs C. Kinnaird Johnstone-Gordon and her second daughter, Mary, unhappily lost their lives in a fire that took place at Nice in 1863: her husband survived till 1869.

On her death, and on failure of her male issue, the estate of Craig passed under the disposition of John Gordon of Craig to a descendent of the Barbara Gordon mentioned above.

Barbara married 26 July 1757 a Mr Brown, sometime minister of Rhynie, later of Newhills: she died in 1798. Their daughter married a Mr Shirrefs, advocate in Aberdeen, by whom she had a son, who became Colonel Shirrefs; the latter's son, on succeeding to Craig, added the name of Gordon to his paternal name.

JAMES FRANCIS GORDON SHIRREFS-GORDON XIV. OF CRAIG,

(Great grandson of Barbara Gordon, daughter of John IX. of Craig.)

This gentleman, Mr James F. G. Shirrefs-Gordon, was the XIV. laird of Craig: he held the estate for about 30 years, but after it had been in the possession of Patrick Gordon and his descendants for about 380 years, it was sold to Mr William Penny Craik a few years ago.

Kincardine Lodge, on the death of Francis Gordon of Craig, passed under his Trust Settlement to his widow, in liferent (or perhaps the mansion-house only), and on her decease to Mrs Hugh Scott of Gala, whose son acquired it, and has since sold it to a Mrs Pickering.

As to the Cadets of the Gordons of Graig the genealogy of the families of Auchmenzie, Tillachondie, Kincraigie, Balnagown, Buntie, Drumgask, Pet, Cults, and others is given at some length in "Records of Aboyne": that of Coclarachie has just been given in a volume of the New Spalding Club "The House of Gordon," and it includes the branches of Auchintoul and Ardmeallie.

There remains the Tillyangus branch, about which I have collected a few details, and propose to add a short notice.

THE GORDONS OF TILLYANGUS.

CADETS OF CRAIG.

James Gordon I. of Tillyangus.
|
William Gordon II. of Tillyangus.
|
James Gordon III. of Tillyangus.
|
William Gordon IV. of Tillyangus.

JAMES GORDON I. OF TILLYANGUS,

(Son of William IInd of Craig.)

James Gordon I. of Tillyangus was the second son of William Gordon, 2nd laird of Craig, by Elspet Stewart, daughter of the laird of Laithers.

All that is said of him in the Balbithan MS. is as follows:—

"William Gordon, 2nd laird of Craig, had a second son, James Gordon of Tullyangus, whose descent is now extinguished save only James Gordon now of Cairnbroggie, who is representative of said family. Their cadents I know not."

From a charter of confirmation already quoted under the Gordons of Craig, dated 1576 and 1591, we learn that James Gordon of Tillyangus' wife's name was Christian Leytht, that their son and heir apparent was William Gordon, and his spouse was Bessie Gordon, that the said William and Bessie had got a charter from William, Bishop of Aberdeen, granting them in conjunct fee, and their male heirs the lands of Tulliangus, under reservation of the free tenement to James G. and Christian Leytht, his spouse, of the profits thereof: it is also mentioned that Patrick Leytht of Harthill had been fiar of one half of the said lands, and it is probable that Patrick was either father or brother of Christian Leytht.

It is further stated in the same volume of the Register of the Grant Seal in a footnote to this charter that "Bishop William had granted a lease of the land of Tuliangous for 19 years to William

Gordoun of Craige and James Gordoun, his son, for a yearly rent of five pounds six shillings and eight pence, two bolls of oats, 12 capons, 2 rams, 40 pence for bondage silver, and half a mart." This charter, dated 1577 and 1591 is given in Ant. Abdn. and Banff, IV., 494: the Bishop's Charter is dated 20 March 1576, Charter of Confn., 1 June 1591. (R.M.S., V. p. 1874.)

James, the first laird of Tillyangus, was one of those who, unfortunately, took part in the battle of Corrichie, and was forfeited in consequence: his name does not occur in the remission granted in February 1567: but in 1568 his name is found in the "Band for the Queen's service, and to concur with and assist the Earl of Huntlie, her Majesty's Lieutenant in the North of Scotland," immediately following that of George Gordon of Lesmoir, and preceding that of William Gordon of . . . . . (probably Craig.)

The lands of Tulliangus, a small property, were in the parish of Clatt, and adjacent to Knockespock on one side and to the lands of Druminor on the other, lying to the south-east of that stronghold of the Forbeses, and not far from the source of the Gadie: but the laird must have had other lands, Fowlislye in Tullynessle, and some in Strathbogie.

The following notes are given from Antiq. Abdn. and Banff, IV., 494, relative to Tullyangus:—

"On the sext day of April 1391, King Robert III. appointed Sir John of Gordon, Knight, to perambulate the marches between the lands of Tirepressy and the lands of Tulyangouss, belonging to Gilbert, Bishop of Aberdeen, on one side, and the lands of Forbes, belonging to Sir John of Forbes, Knight, on the other side." [Registr. Episc. Aberdon., I. p. 187.]

"In 1511 the lands of Tulyangous measuring two ploughgates were let to three tenants (sixteen oxengang to Christi Tulianguse, and eight oxengang to his sons, William Christison and John Christison) for a grassum of £3:6:8 and a yearly rent of £5:6:8, half a mart, two muttons, 12 poultry, 2 bolls of oats and 3/4 for bondage with the accustomed service." [Ibid. pp. 361, 362]

Next follows the short summary of the lease of Tulliangus for 19 years by William, Bishop of Aberdeen, to William Gordoun of Craige and James Gordoun, his son, in nearly the same terms as those quoted a little above.

By the kind permission of Mrs Lumsden, senior of Balmedie, I was able, a few years ago, to make some extracts from notes of the Whitehaugh Charters, among which were the following, which contain mention of the laird of Tulyangus:—

"Grant under the Privy Seal of John Stewart of Mynto, Knight of the escheat of the 19 years tack of the lands of . . . . . aig

[defective in original] with the pertinents in the barony of Strathbogie, set to James Gordon, sometime of Tnlyangous, by the deceased George, Earl of Huntlie, and forfeited by reason of their treason. Dated at Glasgow 8 Jnly 1563."

"Charter by the same Bishop of Aberdeen, granted in obedience to letters nnder the great seal to the said John Stewart of Mynto, Knight of the lands of Tnllyangous, within the parish of Clatt, and of the lands of Fowlislye, within the parish of Tullynessil with the pertinents, formerly belonging to James Gordoun of Tnllyangous, and forfeited by him for treason, to be held of the Bishop in fen for yearly rendering of the services mentioned in the infeftment of the said James. Dated 30 Sept. 1563 before Alex Gordonn of Strathdonn and other witnesses."

"Instrnment of sasine, following npon the preceding, and dated 13 Oct. 1563."

"Instrument by the said Sir John Stewart constituting Patrick Leith, brother of William Leith of Bernes, and Hendrie Leytht, his bailies for resigning the saids lands in the hands of the said Bishop in favonr of Patrick Leith of Harthill. Signed 27 Oct. 1564."

"Charter following thereon by the said Bishop in favour of the said Patrick Leytht of Harthill, his heirs and assignees of the saids lands forfeited by the said James Gordoun, son of the deceased William Gordoun of Johnsleys, to be held in feu farm for yearly payment to the Bishops of Aberdeen for the said lands of Tillyangous of £5 : 6 : 8 Scots, half a mart, 12 capons, two bolls oats with the fodder, 3/4 for bondages, and 21/4 for grassum, according to the old rental, and 2/ for arriages and carriages and services, and 2/ of augmentation, extending in all to £6 : 15 : 8 Scots; and for said lands of Fowlisly with the pertinents [then follow the details] doubling the said sums of money at the entry of every heir or assignee, and for rendering the other services mentioned at this part of the preceding charters; dated 22 Dec. 1564."

"Instrnment of sasine thereon: the sign of giving possession being a black ox valued at 8 merks Scots; dated 8 Jany. 1564 [5].

"Charter of Sale by Patrick Leytht of Harthill with consent of James Gordonn of Tnliangons, the first feuar to Alex. Leytht of Mongary, the brother of the said Patrick, his heirs and assignees, of the said lands of Fowlislie with the pertinents lying in the parish of Tulenessil, and that for certain sums of money, with which and other monies the said Patrick redeemed from the Queen's donator the extent of the lands and moveables of the said James Gordoun, who was then an exile, to be held in fee for payment to the said Bishop of the feu duties, &c., mentioned in the preceding charter, dated 22 Dec. 1564. Granted before these and other witnesses Arthur Forbes of Balfour, John Forbes of Tolleis, Mr Robert Lumisden of Clowayth, John Lumisden of Cuschny, Alex. Forbes of Carnetowlie, 24 Jany 1554 [5].

"Instrument of Renunciation of the saids lands of Fowlislye by the said James Gordoun of Tulliangous in favour of the said Patrick Letcht of Harthill for the sum of 1540 merks Scots paid by the said Patrick to the said Sir John Stewart of Minto by the desire of the said James while he was proscribed for treason: dated before these witnesses Alex- Lectht, son and heir of the said Patrick. Dated 4 Sept. 1565.

"Discharge by the said Patrick Leytht of Harthill to the said Alex. Leytht of Mongarie, his brother for the sum of 1540 merks, for which, he the said Patrick, with consent of the foresaid James Gordoun of Tullyangous, had wadset the said lands of Fowlislie to the said Alexander. Dated before these and other witnesses, the said James Gordoun and John Sengzeour portioner of New Rane 24 Sept. 1565."

It seems propable from the above, taken along with a charter granted by the Bishop in March 1576 to William Gordoun, son of James, and to Elizabeth Gordoun, his spouse, that a family arrangement was made, by which Sir John Stewart was enabled to resign in favour of Patrick Leith of Harthill; upon which the Bishop granted a new charter within two months in favour of Patrick Leith, his heirs and assigns. I think it probable that after a time both Patrick Leith and James Gordon were infeft, each in one half of the said lands, and then resigned them for the re-grant by the Bishop in favour of William, James' son, and his wife, Elizabeth Gordoun, the liferent being reserved to James Gordon, and Christian Leith, his spouse. This charter, dated 20th March 1576, was confirmed 1st June 1591. (R.M.S., V. No. 1874).

The above may explain how in 1568 James is designed "of Tillyangous."

This laird lived for many years after the last mentioned date: for in 1589 he was one of the many "Northland men" who had to find or give caution for loyalty: in that list we find James Gordoun of Tulliangus with James Gordoun of Sauchin 2000 merkis, and again Mr William Gordoun of Dalpersy with James Gordoun of Tullyangous 3000 merkis. (Reg. P.C., 30 April 1589.)

Again in 1594 certain north countrymen were charged to appear before the King and Privy Council to answer for good rule and loyalty: among them occurs —— Gordon, son and apparent heir of James Gordoun of Tullyangous.

The son's name was, as we have seen above, William: the father must have been an old man by 1594; and in another list of northern lairds, who had to give caution in same year not to assist the Earls of Huntly and Errol, William's name appears, and he is designed "of Tullyangous," which is quite consistent with the family arrangement referred to above. I think it may be assumed that they were both Catholics.

I have failed to find any definite information as to the date of James, the first laird's death, but there is (or rather was) an old tombstone at Auchindoir, which is thus described in Jervise's "Epitaphs and Inscriptions," vol. II., p. 209; and I have no doubt it was erected to the memory of James Gordoun of Tullyangus and Christian Leith. After describing one of two stones there he says "The other old tombstone at Auchendoir is in excellent preservation. It bears a shield inscribed I G . . . C L, and charged with the Gordon and Leith arms (a double cross-crosslet and a buckle between three fusils) and these letters and date"

L H M
C A S
1580

"The arms and initials upon this stone point to an intermarriage with the Leith family, but of this, so far as we know, there is no record."

Jervise mentions too "another stone near these two with Gordon arms having a cross-crosslet and 2 crescents evidently for differences, which may, I think, have been those of some of their descendants."

There can be no doubt that the arms he describes with cross-crosslets and 3 fusils are Leith arms, and most of the principal Leith families bear crescents, either in chief or in base. Hence the Gordon and Leith arms and initials IG CL on a stone, placed in or close to the family burial place of the Gordons of Craig, along with the date 1580, seem to me to point clearly to this stone having been put there to the memory of James Gordoun of Tillyangus, a son of the laird of Craig and of Christian Leith, his spouse. It is beyond me to determine what the other six initials above the date 1580 may be; I venture to conjecture that the upper ones may be those of three daughters that married and the lower ones those of their husbands, and that the date may show the year in which the stone was placed there; but I do not remember having seen or read of any similar case.

Jervise gives at p. 208 another curious inscription upon part of the Old Church at Auchindoir, with a strange inscription of initial letters, viz.:—

HIC $\overline{E}$ CORP' $\overline{DNI}$
M. A. S.

of which he gives the following translation, "Here is the body of our Lord with Mary the Apostles and Saints."

If this can be correct, I may venture to suggest that possibly

L H M
C A S

may stand for Liberate has Maria, Christe, Apostoli Sancti: but I do not think this at all probable.

James Gordon, 1st of Tillyangus had evidently at least one son by his wife Christian Leyth, viz.:—

I. William, heir apparent, afterwards IInd laird.

WILLIAM GORDON II. OF TILLYANGUS,

Son of James, 1st laird.

William Gordon, the IInd laird of Tillyangus, evidently became laird sometime before his father's death.

He was married by 1576, as is shown by a charter already referred to, when he and his spouse, Elizabeth Gordon, got a grant of Tillyangus from William, Bishop of Aberdeen, the frank tenement being reserved to his father, James, and the spouse of the latter, Christian Leytht, the said William being therein designed son and apparent heir of James Gordon of Tillyangus. It is probable that he did not succeed to his father (*i.e.*, on the death of the latter) till about the close of the 16th century.

His wife was the eldest daughter of Alexander Gordon of Knockespock. (Balb. MS., p. 63.)

We find that towards the end of 1606 a James Gordoun, apparent of Tilliangus, and Magdalen G., sister to the gudeman of Tillichowdie, got sasine from William Gordon of Tillyangus of the shadow half of Tillyangus, date 8 [23] (sic) Decr. 1606.

In "Records of Aboyne," p. 215, it is mentioned that Patrick Gordoun of Auchmenzie and Tilphoudie had by his second wife, Margaret, daughter of John Erskine of Balhagartie, 3 sons, Robert, Thomas, and Patrick, and 3 daughters, Magdalen, Jean, and Beatrice, one of whom married John Innes of Coxtoun, another was the wife of Leslie of Buchanstoun, on the authority of MS. pedigrees. It is *probable*, I think, that Magdalen, the other daughter, married James Gordoun, apparent of Tillyangus—Auchmenzie is some 3 or 4 miles from Tillyangus—although the brief note from Sasine Register does not add the words "his spouse" after her name. She was half sister of John Gordoun of Tillachowdie (or Tilphoudie), which is not far from Aboyne Castle.

A William Gordon of Tillyangus and spouse got sasine in Tilliangus on 19 April 1621: unfortunately there is a gap in the Registers of Sasines, Aberdeenshire, from Jan. 7 1609 to August 1617.

This laird, William, seems, like many other Gordons of his day, to have been of a somewhat turbulent and lawless disposition, and,

along with his sons, to have been summoned to appear before the Privy Council in Edinburgh: but he got off lightly.

A short summary of the proceedings is there given. Complaint against William Gordon of Tulliangous and Robert Gordoun of Newbigging by Mr Robert Youngson, minr. of Clatt, Jean Irving, his spouse, Mr Alex. Youngson, his son, Lord Forbes and his servitour, viz., that on occasion of preparation for the holie Communion, he and the other pursuers were met and accosted at the gate of Dryminnoir by said William Gordon and Robert Gordon, who were accompanied by Robert, William, James, and George Gordons, his sons [*i.e.*, Tulliangus' sons], and James, George, and Johnne, sons of the said laird of Newbigging, all armed, and were assaulted and wounded by them with drawn swords. (Some details of the assault are then given): further the laird of Tulliangus "after a very insolent manner" during the attack cried out "Laidis, gif ye be equall ye sall go home, but if ye be not equall tarie still untill ye be revengeit of these smaikes and lownes." Appearance was made for pursuers, viz., Mr Robt. G. and another: and of the defenders, William G. of Tillyangus and Robert G. his son, appearing for the family. The lords found that Robert and William, sons of Tulliangus, assaulted the said minister: Robert to be committed to ward within the Tolbooth of Edinburgh, and his brother to enter there within 15 days; the other defenders assoilzied for want of proof of charges. (Reg. Priv. Co., 27 Nov. 1617.)

This matter is entered in the "Minute Book of Processes" under head "Short memoranda thereof" as "Ryott. Mr Robt. Youngson against William Gordoun." (Reg. Priv. Co., 27 Nov., Vol. XI. pp. 269-272.)

The same laird and his eldest son were also mixed up with some very disorderly proceedings which formed the subject of charges against Alexander Gordon of Dunkintie, son of Alex. Gordoun of Stradoun, and grandson of George, 5th Earl of Huntly.

At Holyrood House, on 6th July 1626, complaint was made by Sir William Oliphant of Newtoun, King's Advocate, and John Forbes of Leslie, against Alexander Gordoun of Dunkintie and [many other Gordons, including besides two of Dunkintie's servants] William Gordoun, Elder of Tulliangus, James Younger, his son, Hew Gordoun of Cultis, Robert G. in Newbigging, John G., his son, William Gordoun in Clatt, George Gordoun in Gulburne of Noth, Robert Gordoun at the Mylne of Craig, and William Gordoun in Brae.

The complaint against them was for trespass, violent molestation, and the use of fire-arms; John Forbes of Leslie was the real complainer, and joined the Lord Advocate in the following complaint, viz., that on 28 March last [*i.e.*, 1626], Alex. G. of Dunkintie, with a number of his servants, shot 6 or 7 of complainer's tame ducks; on 1 April following they went to his place of

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Leslie, threatening his servants, and shot 5 or 6 more ducks; on 24 April, they violently uplifted the whole hors, nolt, sheep, and foods from a farm, Chapeltoun of Leslie; on 3 latter days in April, and 3 days in May, they gathered all the complainer's ploughs and 30 work oxen, and sent them to New Lesley, there yoked them and ploughed the land, allowing the oxen to pasture growing corn; that they threatened his servants whom he sent to remonstrate when further depredations took place on 20 May; and further, that when he, the complainer, was holding his own Baron Court at Lichliehead, on 5 May, the said Alex. Gordoun assembled a number of persons, all armed, came to his house, where he was holding his Court, and attempted to force it to the terror of his life.

The pursuers appeared. Of the defenders—Dunkintie, Tulliangus and his son James, Hew G. of Cultis, Robert G. of Newbigging (for himself and his son), George G. in Noth, and John Hay, one of Dunkintie's servants.

The Lords found Dunkintie guilty of wearing hagbuts and pistolets and of shooting one duck at John Leslie's mylne dam, and ordered him to pay a fine of £100, and to remain in Edinburgh till it was paid. They held that none of the other charges were proved, and assoilzied all the other defenders, but ordained Dunkintie to find caution in £1000 not to wear firearms in future, and both Dunkintie and John Forbes to find law surety each to the other in 5000 merks, and not to leave Edinburgh till this was done. (Reg. Priv. Co., 2nd series, vol. I., pp. 327-8: 6th July 1626.) Exaggeration in complaints was not uncommon.

Of the persons named it is probable that Robert in Newbigging was one of the Terpersie family, as that place belonged to the Laird of Terpersie in 1649: Robert G. at the Milne of Craig may have been one of the Tillyangus family, who is mentioned as getting sasine along with his sons in Langland 28 March 1664: and William G. *in* Brae, probably in Brae of Scurdargue: these two last mentioned families seem to have intermarried. (See Jervises "Epitaphs, &c.," II. p. 210). Some of their descendants were at Rhynie, Gartly, and in Clatt.

In 1637 a Robert Gordon *in* Auchindoir [possibly at the Mill] and spouse got sasine in Tillyangus on 20 November of that year. I think this may refer to some family provision made for them on marriage: he may probably have been a son or she a daughter of the Tillyangus family. See some remarks made above on an old tombstone at Auchindoir to memory of a Robert Gordon and Elspet Gordon his spouse, with a shield charged sinister with three boars heads between a cross crosslet with two crescents in base, and the same arms in dexter, except that two crescents are in chief: all as described in the time of Francis, 6th laird of Craig. (See Jervise's "Epitaphs and Inscriptions," II., p. 210.)

William Gordon II. of Tillyangus seems to have had by his wife,

Elizabeth Gordon, at anyrate one son; and by her (or possibly by a second wife) three others, viz.·—

I. James, apparent of Tillyangus, afterwards IIIrd laird.
II. Robert.
III. William.
IV. George.

All these are mentioned in the complaint against William G. of Tulliangus and others for assault. (Reg. P.C., 27 Nov. 1617.) Robert's name is there mentioned first, but in 1606 James is called apparent of Tulliangus in a sasine given above.

William, IInd laird, was certainly alive in 1626 (Reg. Priv. Co.), and probably for some years after that date, perhaps till about 1637.

JAMES GORDON III. OF TILLYANGUS,

Son of William, IInd laird.

James Gordon III. of Tillyangus got sasine of the lands of Tillyangus on 10 Dec. 1638; at least this sasine probably refers to the James who, as apparent of Tillyangus, got sasine in the lands thereof on 8 Dec. 1606. He was evidently then grown up, if Magdalen Gordon, who got sasine along with him, was his spouse. He appears to have taken part, along with his father and brothers, at the assault made upon the minister of Clatt in 1617: and he again got sasine in 1638.

I think this sasine may have been granted on his succession to his father: in 1606 he had got sasine on the shadow half of the estate.

Information about this family is very meagre, or at any rate I have failed to find much.

I have indicated above that I think he married Magdalen Gordon, daughter of Patrick Gordon of Auchmenzie; but this is only an inference drawn from the sasine quoted above of 8 Dec. 1606, when James Gordon and Magdalen G., sister to the gudeman of Tillachowdie, got sasine of the shadow half of Tillyangus.

It is probable that he had at any rate one son, William, who succeeded him; but perhaps the next laird was his brother William: or this laird James may have resigned in favour of his successor within a few years after 1638.

WILLIAM GORDON IV. OF TILLYANGUS,

Probably Son of James, III. of Tillyangus.

William Gordon, IV. of Tillyangus, was, I think, probably a son of the third laird, and may have succeeded either on the decease or resignation of his father.

William Gordon of Tillyangus got sasine on 3rd August 1641 in Tillyangus, and Marjorie Gordon, his spouse, got sasine in the same on same date; this may have been on their marriage or on William's succession. I take Marjorie to be the lady mentioned in the Balbithan MS., p. 56, as a daughter of Sir James Gordon of Knowen [otherwise Knaven or Knawen], the son of David Gordon of Nethermuir, as Sir James's daughter is there said to have married the fiar of Tillyangus. On the above supposition, viz., that this sasine was granted on their marriage, William must have been "fiar" up to or after 1641: this implies that at that date he was the acknowledged heir of the third laird.

Reference is made, no doubt, to this William as "of Tillyangus" in a letter from Gilbert Blakhall, a Roman Catholic priest, to the daughter of John, Viscount Aboyne, who perished in the fire at Frendraught in 1630, by Lady Sophia Hay.

It is mentioned in that letter that William Gordon of Tillyangus had been page to the Viscount, and that he and John Gordon, Leichiston, had both been of that company of light horsemen [viz., of the Gordons] who had spoiled the lands of Frendraught, and had been banished since that raid till "The Troubles" began. The letter is part of a series entitled "A Brieffe Narration of the Services done to three noble Ladyes by Gilbert Blakhal," a priest, published by the Spalding Club. It describes his journey on horseback from Strathbogie to Aboyne, where the Viscount's daughter [Henriet] was lying ill with smallpox. At the hostelry at Muir of Rhynie he fell in with a party of soldiers under their Captain, William Gordon of Tillyangus, and John Gordon of Licheston, his lieutenant, all much the worse of liquor. [Muir of Rhynie is only about three miles from Tillyangus, and about the same from Craig, one of the houses which Blakhal visited from time to time as a priest.] Leicheston was in a very friendly mood, and swore to live and die with him, while Tillyangus was quarrelsome. The former, though he did not recognise Blakhal, who found it necessary to conceal his identity, aided him in keeping the peace. At this time, in 1640, Tillyangus was "listing men for the Covenant."

The priest very cleverly evaded answering the Captain's questions as to who he was, and in the end they became great friends, and they

all drank to one another before they parted. (See "Brieffe Narration of the Services, &c., 1641-1649, Spald. Club, pp. 104-110, and Extracts therefrom in Michie's "Logie-Coldstone and Braes of Cromar," pp. 45-72.)

A William Gordon got sasine in Tillyangus in 1663-1664.

Also a William Gordon and spouse got sasine in Tillyangus 19 March 1674.

But Harry Gordon of Auchlyne [in parish of Clatt, and of the Terpersie family] got sasine in Tillyangus same date, probably in connection with some money transaction.

These desultory items do not show the relationship of one person to the other, but some of the family seem to have retained the estate from which they took their designation till about the last mentioned date. Soon afterwards it seems to have been acquired by a Forbes, one of the great family which the Gordons were long at feud with. For in the Poll Book 1696 under "Telongous, parish of Clatt" we find "William Forbes, heritor, valuation £125: his poll £4:6:0: his wife and daughter 12/-" (Vol. I., p. 471.)

The author of the Balb. MS. mentions James Gordon of Cairnbrogie as male representative of this family, but specifies no date. I find no other mention of him.

THE END.

SOME NOTES ON THE CABRACH

BY CAPTAIN DOUGLAS WEMBERLEY.

I.

The Cabrach, as now generally understood, includes the parish of that name, which up to about five years ago was partly in Aberdeenshire, partly in Banffshire; but since the comparatively recent readjustment of boundaries it has been all in the latter county. It is about eight miles in length and about five miles in breadth, and contains about 34,000 acres. It is bounded on the north by the parishes of Mortlach and Glass, on the east by Gartly, Rhynie, Auchindoir, and Kildrummie, on the south by Glenbuchat, and on the west by Inveravon and Mortlach.

The southern part may be described as consisting of the Upper Cabrach proper and upper part of the Blackwater district; the northern of the Lower Cabrach and lower part of Blackwater, and further down part of Strathdeveron. The whole is a mountainous district, all or very nearly all above the 1000 feet line in the contoured maps, even the valleys or glens of the Deveron and Blackwater and of the several burns that form them.

The access to it from the north is by Meikle Balloch on the road from Dufftown (height 1150 feet), between the Garbat Hill (1645 feet) and another on the opposite side of the road (1476 feet). The northern boundary runs north-eastwards high above the river Deveron; that on the west side soon takes a turn nearly to the south along a chain of hills which separates the Blackwater and Glenfiddich forests; then nearly southwards to and beyond a hill Gealchairn (2241 feet); the southern boundary then follows the hilltops up to the summit of "the Buck of the Cabrach," a very picturesque hill of conical form (2368 feet); at its summit the parishes of Rhynie, Auchindoir, and Kildrummie meet; the eastern boundary runs along the ridge of another chain of hills for about five miles about due northwards, which trends towards the Deveron below its junction with the Blackwater, and then bends to the north-east nearly parallel to the river till it meets the boundary of the parish of Glass.

The Cabrach abounds in hill game; the hills are well watered and generally covered with heather; there is very little bare rock or tracts covered with loose stones or debris of rock; hardly any planted wood, but a good deal of birch coppice; some mosses of considerable extent. The Richmond Hotel was long known as "The Grouse Inn." The prettiest part is the short defile of Glendorich, the dusky glen through which the Deveron runs after leaving the wide basin of the Upper Cabrach, until at Invercherach the Allt Deveron and Blackwater unite and receive the water of the Carrach or Cherach; at the head of this glen was a ford by which traffic passed between the upper and lower districts until through the efforts of Mr Gordon, Bank, and Mr Robertson, schoolmaster, money was raised to build a handsome and serviceable bridge; from a spot near the old ford one of the best views of "The Buck" can be got. But though the above description applies to the parish and to "The Cabrach" as understood for several generations, I think there can be no doubt that in the early records the name signified the Upper Cabrach only; and on this point I agree with my late friend Mr James Macdonald, and in holding that the name signifies a place abounding in trees, as testified by remains found in the mosses.

As early as 1373 we find that King Robert II. granted to William, Earl of Douglas all and whole the lands of the Forest of Cabrach and half Davach of Auchmair, and free tenement of the other half of said Davach, which is called Clova, with parts in Sheriffdom of Banff, which was the property of David Brown of Glandriston, but the said David had resigned it; dated at Edinburgh 9th January in the 3rd year of our reign [1373-4 Reg. Mag. Sig. I., No. 47 of Robert II.] This shows that the Cabrach was then a forest, probably a royal chase reserved for hunting, and distinct from the Davach of Auchmair. "A few years later King Robert III. confirmed a donation by Sir James Sandilands to George, Earl of Angus, of all rights of succession competent to him, after the decease of Isobel, Countess of Mar, of several lordships, baronies, regalities, superiorities, and lands, the latter including the whole lands and rents of Down, Buck, Cabrach, and Cloveth in Banffshire; the date being 1397." (Douglas and Wood's Peerage under "Marr." Some 75 years later Losmorthie [or Lesmurdie] and Invercheroch (the latter being divided into thirds) were distinct properties; for Lawrence Nudry, lord of one

part of Ovirestead, sold to George de Strathsuchin of Losmorthie, his heirs and assigns, the lands of the third parts of Balcherie, Invercherauch, and Auchnastank, Sheriffdom of Banff; the first witness was John Strathachin of Thornton, dated 5th Feb., 1473. Confirmed at Edinburgh 13th March, 1473-4.

The following relates also to Inverquherach in 1488:—The King [? James IV.] confirmed a Charter of John Craigmyll of Craigmyll and Lord Portioner of Inverquherach, in which for a certain sum paid in ready money he sold and alienated to Sir James Ogilvy of Deskford, knight, the lands of Inverquherach, Balchery, and Auchinstank, Sheriffdom of Banff, to be held of the King in fee; dated at Chapel of St Mary of Gareoch, 22nd June, 1488. Confirmed at Perth 25th June, 1488. These lands from Invercherach downwards were evidently quite distinct from "The Cabrach" proper at that time, and we find it stated in "Scott's Fasti," III., Part II., p. 552, that Invercherach or Strathdeveron was formerly a separate parish until suppressed and annexed to Cabrach by the Commissioners of Tiends, 27th Feb., 1665. The old church there was dedicated, as was Mortlach, to St Moluac, and the kirkyard is still used as a burial place, now called apparently Wallakirk, by old families long resident in Lower Cabrach. Returning to the Upper Cabrach, we find that by 1397 Cabrach along with Cloveth (probably half of the Davach of Auchmayr) and the Buck, belonging to Sir James Sandilands of Calder, brother-in-law of King James III., who granted them to George Douglas, who became first Earl of Angus. This George was the son of William, first Earl of Douglas, by his third wife, Margaret Stewart, who became Countess of Mar and Angus. George's half-sister, Isobel Douglas, succeeded as Countess of Mar, and George on his marriage became Earl of Angus; and this Isobel, Countess of Mar, married Sir Alexander Stewart, who became Earl of Mar and Garioch. George Douglas himself married in 1397 Mary, daughter of King Robert III., and acquired many lands, among them several from Sir James Sandilands, viz., besides estates in the South of Scotland, the lands of Dounboak, Calbrache, and Clenaghe in Banffshire; this grant was confirmed by the King to the said George and Mary Stewart, his spouse, by a Charter of Confirmation in same year.

In the disputes that ensued about the Earldom of Mar, and the assertion of claims by Sir Robert of Erskine, Sir Robert seems to have promised the Cabrach to Lord Forbes, if he should succeed in recovering the Mar estates; but the Erskines failed then and did not succeed in getting their claim recognised till Queen Mary's reign when in 1565, John, Earl of Mar, signed an agreement in which he promised, inter alia, that he would never claim any right to the lands of Cabrach. This, however, may refer to the Kirklands thereof. In any case the Cabrach must have reverted to and continued to be the property of the Crown, for by 1508 the lands and forest of Cabrach became the property under a Royal Charter of the Earl of Huntly.

This Charter runs:—"The King, for good service, granted to Alexander, Earl of Huntlie, Lord Gordoun and Baidenach, his heirs and assigns, the lands and forest of Cabrach, Sheriffdom of Abirdeen, to be held in free barony and forestry; Reddendo Ward, etc., when occasion should arise; moreover, he united the said lands to the barony of Huntlie. Dated at Edinburgh 25th April, 1508. It will be observed that in the Charters quoted above, Invercheroch and Balchery are described as in the Sheriffdom of Banff, Cabrach in that of Aberdeen.

The Earl almost immediately disposed of the lands thus granted in the same year to a James Gordoun of Auchmilly, his cousin or kinsman. I have failed to discover to which branch of the Gordons the latter belonged; there is a place called Auchmullen near Wester Clova in the parish of Kildrummie on the south-east side of "The Buck." The terms of the Charter are as follows, and it gives an interesting description of the bounds of the forest; permission, too, is granted to bring parts of it into cultivation.

The King [James IV.] confirmed a charter by Alexander, Earl of Huntlie, etc., in which he sold and alienated to his cousin, James Gordoun of Auchmully, and his heirs, the lands and forest of Cabrauch, in the Earldom and Barony of Huntlie, Sheriffdom of Abirdene, divided from his own property of the said barony by these marches, viz., beginning on south at the burn or spring rising between Elrig, which is in the territory of Cabrauch, and Blackmiddings in Huntlie (which was otherwise called Strathbogie) and thence by the summit of Luddishill (now marked in maps Leidshill) to the Hundehilloch between Garbat and Reidford, and by the summit of the hill between Cairnaloquhy and Tullochdowy, between the heads of the 3 burns in Strathbogy, and Glascory in Cabrauch, by the summit of Cornabroicht to the north and east angle of Ballochbegg, which is called Grenewelheid, which is divided between

Cabrauch and Corrynuisy, with power of bringing said lands into cultivation. Reddendo to the Earl 3 suits at 3 head courts of Huntlie, also ward when occasion should occur. Dated at the Burgh of Jedburgh 9 [sic] Dec. 1508: confirmed at Jedburgh 4 [sic] Dec. 1508.

The boundary line was evidently the sky of the hill running northwards from the shoulder of the Buck; the Houndhillock seems to have been above the bend of the road from Rhynie to the Cabrach; Tullochdowy is evidently the Blackhill, Cairnaloquhy or Cairnallachie, perhaps the south-east end of the Black Hill in the Ordnance map, where the larger stream of the Eallachie takes its rise; the three burns head was to continue in Strabogy and the Glascory in Cabrach; the former was on the east side of the top of the range, i.e., Cairnallachie, the latter was probably the large howe above Auchmair and Bank on the west, Tullochdowy being further north, adjoining the Daugh of Corrynuisy, now Corinacy; the Ballochbeg is probably the little pass between what is now marked on the maps, Mount Haddock and the south end of the Blackhill; Cornabroicht, probably for Coire nam bruic, the badger's cairn; and Coirynuisy was a large davach between the Blackhill and the Deveron, which, however, Mr Macdonald identifies with Glascorrie. (See "Place Names in Strathbogie," pp. 130 and 156, and "Place Names in West Aberdeenshire.")

James Gordon of Auchmully was possibly James Gordon in Carnboro, a brother of John Gordon of Longar, ancestor of Pitlurg; these two brothers were the two first witnesses to a Charter by Alexander, Earl of Huntly, in favour of his cousin, Alexander Ogilvy of Ogilvy, of the lands of Tillynacht, 13th October, 1519. James Gordon of Cabrach was a witness to a Charter by Alexander Leslie of Leslie of sale to Patrick Leith of Crannoch of half of his lands of Edingarrack, 10th March, 1515: further as James Gordon of Auchmyling was witness to a Charter of Sale by Alexander Setoun of Touch Fraser, to John Gordon of Longar, of the lands of Kynmundies, with pertinents, dated Edinburgh 16th April, 1506; confirmed at Edinburgh in 1506. It may be noted here that about this period Glenfiddich and a third part of Invercherach belonged to (as already mentioned) the Ogilvies of Deskford; and Alexander Ogilvy of that family, who married Agnes Gordon, probably a natural daughter of Alexander, third Earl of Huntly, got a Royal Charter of the above

along with the baronies of Findlater, Deskford, Kathmore, and other lands, dated Edinburgh 22nd May, 1517.

Somewhat later Alexander Ogilvy of Ogilvy and Elizabeth Gordon (daughter of Adam, Dean of Caithness, and afterwards wife of Sir John Gordon), his spouse, got a Charter of Confirmation from the King [James V.] of the barony of Kathmore with the Castle of Auchindoun, the free forest of Glenfiddich, the third part of Auchnastank and Balquhery, a half part of Inverquherach, the forest of Etnach, otherwise Blackwater, lying on the north side of the Deveron which the said Alexander had resigned; to be held by the said Alexander and Elizabeth and the longer liver, etc. Signed at Stirling 31st December, 1535. It was this lady's marriage to Sir John Gordon that in time brought the lands described in this Charter into the Huntly family. After the execution and forfeiture of Sir John Gordon in 1562, Queen Mary granted the lands and baronies of Findlater, Deskford, and others to James Ogilvy of Cardell, but the Gordons disputed possession of a considerable portion. This led to a submission, and in 1566 a decreet arbitral assigned to James Ogilvy the lands and baronies of Findlater and Deskford, and to Sir Adam Gordon those of Auchindoun and Kethmore. From the above it is evident that the Blackwater forest as well as Glenfiddich was not in the Cabrach at the dates mentioned, 1508-1535.

James Gordon of Auchmully evidently did not retain the Cabrach very long, for it must have been granted along with Strathowne, Inverrowries, Fothirletter, the fortalice of Drummyne, etc., to Alexander Gordon, senior, by his nephew George, Earl of Huntly, to Janet Grant, Alexander's spouse, and to Alexander, junior, their son, who became of Strathoune some time before 1539; for in that year all these lands were given up to the Earl under a contract of excambion dated at Dundee 31st August, in exchange for the lands of Mains of Cluny and others; the contract was registered in the books of the King's Council 4th September, 1539. The Earl granted a Charter which was confirmed at Falkland 21st December, 1540.

SOME NOTES ON THE CABRACH

BY CAPTAIN DOUGLAS WIMBERLEY.

II.

The Cabrach proper consists of a large and nearly circular basin with a diameter of about three miles, the lower portion of which may have been a loch dammed at the north end by the extremity of the Bank of Corrinuisy, and the end of the hill on which stands Tornikelt, where one can suppose there was no break to allow an outlet, but only an overflow; but if this was the case the barrier must have given way centuries ago, as there are extensive mosses, especially near the base of "The Buck," in which layers of roots and trees representing two generations are found, the trees being chiefly oak, fir, and birch. (See Macdonald's "Place Names in Strathbogie," p. 152). According to tradition, the Cabrach at an early period was used for grazing the King's horses, presumably before the grant by Robert II. to the Earl of Douglas in 1373, and the officer in charge may have been the "Maor," whose title is supposed by some to survive in Auchmair, the name of a Davach in times past, now of a farm. Before 1600 the Earl of Huntly had divided the Cabrach into farms, probably to a large extent used for grazing, but much land was under the plough, as will be seen in the description of the farms; the names of 16 of these, a mill, and two crofts are given, also the rentals and names of the tenants; of these about 14 were either lairds or lairds' sons, probably non-resident. The details are of sufficient interest to be given here, and Mr Macdonald notices that there is no mention of payment in grain or meal, but the mill must have been required for the district. The farms were:—

Haddoche, ane pleuche, Denscheil four oxingange payis yearlie maill 20 markis—John Leythe of Harthill, tenant.

Reidfuird, ane pleuche payis yearly maill 20 markis—John Gordon in Lichestoun, tenant.

Over Howboige, ane pleuche payis yearlie maill 20 markis—Young Lesmoir, tenant.

Nather Howboige, ane pleuche payis yearlie maill 20 poundis, Twa stain of buttir—Robert Gordon in Andett, tenant.

Elrick, ane pleuche payis yearlie maill 40 markis, ane stain of butter—James Gordon of Knockespack, tenant.

Baldibaes [or Bad-i-bae, birch clump or thicket], ane pleuche payis yearlie maill 40 markis—John Gordon of Newtoun, tenant.

Rochfindzeauche [perhaps called Rastinnach in 1696], ane pleuche payis yearlie maill three-score stanes cheis convertit in silver at tuentie shillings the stain, inde three scoir poundis. George Gordon of Tarpertie, tenant. This place cannot be identified; perhaps it was the south-west part of the basin beyond Brachlach, towards Rochford and Glenbucket. Findzeauche may perhaps be fionn dhauch. Mr Macdonald mentions "Rauchtanzeauch, Birse, with derivation Ruidhe-tanach, slope or shieling of the herd." Rastinnach seems not far removed from Rauchtanzeauch.

Mekle Braikleyis, tua pleuchis payis yearlie maill 80 markis, Buttir four stain. The guidwyif widow in Oxhill, tenant; James Gordone in Lesmurdie, cautioner.

Powneid, ane pleuche payis yearlie maill 40 markis, Buttir twa stain. Arthur Huie, William Huie, tua oxengaitt each. John Leyth four oxin gaitt.

Kirktoune, ane pleuch payis yearlie maill 40 poundis, Buttir tua stain; George Ferrour four oxengange, John Leythe tua oxingange, Adam Habrain tua oxingange.

Auchmair.—Ane pleuche; payis yearlie—maill, 20 markis. Young Lesmoir tenant. [He was also tenant at same date of Tullemeneth, parish of Gartly. Huntly Rental.]

Qyhythilloch.—Ane pleuche; payis yearlie—maill, 20 markis maill; buttir, tua stain buttir. Young Harthill, tenant.

Croift of Bal-hilloche.—Payis yearlie—maill, tene poundis maill. George Chryistie, tenant. [Said to be near the present school in Upper Cabrach.]

Craig in Gaitt.—Payis yearlie—maill, sax markis maill; buttir, tua stain. [Apparently vacant.]

Learg (i.e., Lairg or Lairig). — Ane pleuche; payis yearlie—maill, 20 pounds maill. George Gordoun of Coclarachie, tenant.

Auldeunye. Tua pleuches; payis yearlie—maill, fourtie poundis maill. [Apparently vacant.]

Tornakelt.—Ane pleuche; payis yearlie—maill, twentye pounds maill. James Gordoun of Prony, tenant.

Auldeuallache (Aldivallach). — Tua pleuchis; payis yearlie—maill, fourtie markis maill. John Leythe of Edingarach, tenant.

The Mylne.—Ane pleuche; payis yearlie—maill, fourtie markis maill; buttir, tua stain buttir. [Apparently vacant.]

Geauche. -Tua pleuches. The Geyache sett for tua pleuches, reservand the ward in my lordis awne hand for yeirlie payment of six scoir libs money, to be peyit yearlie at Zeul-day—the first yeir's payment at Zeul-day J.A.J.V.I. (stands for 1609: not uncommon. J.A.J. seems to stand for M.) and sevin yeirs; and my lord is astrictit to mak' no set of the ward but to the tenants.

John Leythe, portioner, ane quarter.
John Lawrence, ane quarter.
Patrick Sandesoun, tua oxen gange.
Alexander Anderson, tua oxin gange.
John Gordoun, tua oxin gange.
Patrick M'Gillewrick, cautioner.
Patrick M'Gille riche, tua oxin gange.

Summa of the haill Cabrach silver mailles extends to 366 markis; summa of the butter extende to [17 stones].

A great deal of interesting information relative to the inhabitants of the Cabrach nearly a century later is found in the Poll-book for Aberdeenshire, 1695-6. It gives names of the owners and occupiers of lands by parishes. Under "Parish of Cabrach" we find the Duke of Gordon sole heritor, and his valuation entered at £454 Scots. This, of course, refers to lands in Aberdeenshire only; the rental of each holding is not given, but only the names of the farms and holdings, and of the persons resident at each liable to the tax.

At Tornichelt — John Gordon, tenant, and Elizabeth Gordon, his spouse; James Sheed (spelt Sherd), his servant; other servants' and cottars' names, Hay and Hervie.

At Auchmedie [probably Auchmair] — James Gordon, tenant; Isobel Reid, his wife; two sons, James and John; and James, brother of the tenant.

At Milnetoun of Cabrach—Alaster Shaw, tenant; Agnes Shirrar, his wife; servants' names, Shaw and Isobel Mackintosh; and George Shand, his milkert.

Old Downie (Auldunie)—Several small tenants of names Paterson, Shaw, Scot, Craig, Gald, Cheyn.

Aldivalloch—Small tenants, James Gordon and Janet Clark, his spouse; also James Hepburn and wife; Robert Doull, Alaster Keillies, M'Cully, a shoemaker; a James Innes, and a James Scott.

Geach—Peter Gordon, tenant; Alaster Gordon, servant; Arthur Reid, herd; Christian Smith, servant. Small tenants, etc.—Robert Craig, John Ago [? Argo], Arthur Reid, William Robertson, Thomas Craig, Jane Dasson. William Smith (elder and younger), William Roy, and Margaret Gordon, a servant.

Rastinnuch [not to be identified now, but perhaps Rochfindyeauche.—See above] — William Robertson and John Robertson, his son; James Scot, servant.

Bracklah—John Roy and his wife; Alexander Roy, Christian Roy, daughter; John Gregor and John Couper, servants; Thomas Roy and his wife and William Ferriar, small tenants; Robert Mackandly, a hird.

West Badibae—William Paterson, Geo. Clark, weaver.

Little Bracklah—Andro Gald, small tenant; Duncan Couper and Isabell Craig, servants; Allaster Spence, weaver; George Coupar, cottar.

Powneid—John Marnoch and Allaster, his son. [Upper Howbog is not mentioned.]

Nether Howbog—James Stewart and wife; Alexander Yeat, weaver; George Yeat and his wife; James Clerk, taylor, and his wife; James Mark and his wife; John Clerk, James Clerk, Francis Clerk, Janet Stewart, servant; John Paterson, and Robert Paterson.

Alrick—John Roy and wife; James Fergus and wife.

Reidford—Thomas Yeat, weaver, and wife; Arthur Herd, Geo. Fettes and wife; Jean Fettes, John Clerk and wife.

Hadoch—James Dasson and spouse; William Fettes, servant; Jean Scot, servant. [Perhaps Peter Gordon, merchant in Kirkton, was a tenant, but non-resident.]

Kirkton of Cabrach—Thos. Stewart and wife, and Jean, daughter; Robert Stewart and wife; William Stewart and wife; Peter Gordon, merchant; Hugh Clerk.

Craigincat—John Stewart and spouse; Adam Anderson, herd; Jean Anderson, servant; George Stewart, weaver; Francis Clerk and wife.

[Craigincat was to the north of Powneid.]

Lark [i.e., Leargue or Lairg, west of Aldunie]—Geo. Hepburn and wife; John Gordon and wife; Robert and William Anderson, Janet Blair.

Summa of Cabrach parioch is sixtie pund, seventeen shillings, two pennies, Scots money.

It will be observed that the roll is called Poll List of Parish of Cabrach, but it is an Aberdeenshire return, and no doubt contains only the portion of the parish that was in that county, though the Lower Cabrach had been annexed to the parish some 30 years before. On comparing the rentals of 1600 and 1696 it will be seen that the character of the tenancies differs widely; at the earlier date most of the larger farms seem to have been let to non-resident tenants, but they may have had sub-tenants; the Milne, Auldunie, and Croft of Craigingaitt, or Craigineat, seem to have been vacant, but Geyauch (a large extent) let to several tenants.

The considerable rise in rental at the later date is noted by Mr James Macdonald in "Place Names in Strathbogie," p. 169. In 1600 it was "366 merks, silver markis," and "17 stones butter; by 1696 it had risen to 454 pounds Scots," or nearly double. He adds—"It is suggestive that while most of the low country rents were partly paid in grain and in meal, neither entered into the rental of the Cabrach. Mills uniformly paid largely in meal, but the miller of the Cabrach had to pay silver merkis and 2 stones butter."

The full details given in the Poll Book induce one to try and trace out something about "Roy's Wife of Aldivalloch." An extract from the Parish Registers of Baptisms and Marriages has just been printed in the "Banffshire Journal" of (?) 28th July, 1903. It runs:—

1727. January 29th.—It being found that John Roy, lawfull son to Thomas Roy in Aldvallach, and Isobel Stewart, lawful daughter to the deceased Alastir Stewart, some time in said Aldvalloch, were contracted in order for marriage, they were this day proclaimed pro 1st [on February 5th pro 2nd, and on February 12th pro 3rd]. They were married on 21st February.

1728. February 25.—John Roy in Aldivalloch had a son baptised named Thomas.

1760. January 30.—Thomas Roy in Aldivalloch had a son by his wife, Isobell Grant, baptised, named John. Witnesses—John Gordon, in Auchmair, and John Roy, in Aldivalloch.

Another son was baptised on 11th March, 1762—William.

In 1696 there were several Roys and several Stewarts in the Cabrach, but not one of that surname in Aldivalloch. In Geauch or Gauch not far off there was a William Roy and his wife; across the Deveron there was in Brachlach a John Roy and his wife and their son Alexander; also a Thomas Roy and his wife; and in Alrich (or Elrig) a John Roy and his wife; these Roys were probably all related to one another. There was a James Stewart and wife in Nether Howbog; a Thomas Stewart and his wife in Kirktoun, also a Robert Stewart and wife and a William Stewart and wife all in Kirktoun; a John Stewart and wife and also a George Stewart and wife both in Craigincat. Isobel Stewart no doubt belonged to one of these families, though there is not an Alaster among them; judging by the Christian names of the Roys mentioned in the extracts from parish registers just given, it seems not improbable that John of Aldivalloch was of the Bracklach Roys.

John Gordon in Auchmair, who was a witness in 1760, was doubtless of the same family as the present tenant of that farm. There are tombstones in the Cabrach kirkyard of these Gordons dating from the middle of the 18th century.

After writing the above I came on a cutting from the "Inverness Courier" of 11th November, 1898, giving a contribution by the late "Nether Lochaber." In the course of it is given an extract from the "Banffshire Journal" of August 23rd in same year, which I have not seen. The writer thereof refers to "the almost absolute depopulation of the Upper Cabrach between 1693 and 1700 owing to the succession of 7 bad seasons, and consequent famine; he mentions, too, that some of the tenants who had removed elsewhere returned, while in other cases farms had new occupants.

Among the changes, the farm of Bracklach, previously occupied by Roy's father and son, was taken by one "David Gordon in Kirkhill," who retained the latter farm, and held the Bracklach for summer pasturage. At the same time the Roys went to Aldivalloch. He quotes an entry from parish

register as follows:—"On 21st February, 1727, John Roy, lawful son to Thomas Roy, in Aldivalloch, was married to Isabella, daughter of Alister Stuart, sometime residenter in Cabrach." "This," he says, "is the couple that gave rise to the well-known song 'Roy's Wife of Aldivalloch.'"

David Gordon of Kirkhill figures in one of the stanzas of the song, and the above writer mentions that his name appears in the baptismal register as a sponsor at a period not far distant from Roy's marriage This confirms my conjecture.

III.

By 1696 there were comparatively few persons of the name of Gordon, at any rate as tenants, resident in the parish, but about 60 years later there were at any rate Gordons in Haddoch, a Peter Gordon, of the Birkenburn family, who is said to have died in 1758, but I am doubtful as to that date, and think it may have been 1738 or earlier; his son Alexander was in Haddoch; another son, James, in Auldmerdrum, Rhynie; another, George, in Auchmair; another, John, sometime in Auchmair, later in Drumfergue, and father of John of Coynachie, Lieutenant-Colonel 92nd Highlanders, and Peter in Buncruineach. Of the Coynachie Gordons some notes will be added in connection with their family tombstones.

From Alexander, in Haddich, is descended Mr Hugh Gordon, sometime of the Knoll, Elgin; from James, in Auldmerdrum, the Gordons of Manar; from George, in Auchmair, and later in Balnacraig, Glass, through his daughter Isobel, Mr Harry J. Wilson, Inspector of Factories in the East of Scotland, Mr Wilson, tenant in Coynachie and Drumfergue, and the late Mr Hugh Wilson, tenant in Milton of Noth. The said Isobel married James Wilson in Bankhead of Clatt, sometime factor for the lairds of Knockespock and Clova. Another daughter of George in Auchmair married Grant in Bowmakillock, and a third married Forbes at Botriphnie; probably some descendants are alive.

The Gordons of Dauch or Gauch, of Elrig, of Bank of Corinacy, and of Pyke are, I understand, all related to one another, and claim to be descended from the Pitlurg Gordons. There are tombstones to some of these for several generations.

Turning to the present day it may be of interest to note the prevalent names of tenants in the Upper Cabrach. There can be but few places in Great Britain where farms have been held so generally by members of the same family from father to son, as on the Gordon estates of the Duke of Richmond and Gordon. These tenants occupying farms partly arable and generally with a considerable outrun of hill pasture, all at a high altitude, require to have a generous and kindly landlord to enable them to tide over late and adverse seasons, when severe weather in spring makes sowing very late, and wet or cold summers without sun, and practically no autumn, either prevents corn from ripening or spoils it by frost, and when from one cause or another the turnip crop is a failure. Thanks to the late venerable Duke the tenants of today retain the holdings occupied by their fathers and grandfathers, and in some cases further back, and are "let live." The tenants, too, to do them justice, are men of energy and skilled in making the best of their opportunities, and in most seasons by July or August there is a promise of fair crops, if they can only get weather to ripen them and so get them in safe; cattle and sheep are of good quality and thrive Much the same remarks apply to the Lower Cabrach, where the arable land generally is at a somewhat lower elevation Among the tenants in this lower district there are, or were till lately, Gordons at Pyke and Oldtown and at Belchery; a Merson at Invercherrach; M'Connachies at Nether Ardwell, at Drywells, and Broomknowes · a M'Donald at Shanwell; a Riach at Greenloan and Succoch; a Robertson at Tomnaven; a Sheed at Upper Ardwell; Taylors at Easterton, at Milltown, at Hillock of Echt, and at Ballochford; and a Watt and his son joint tenants at Nether Ardwell and of the comfortable hotel there. In the Upper Cabrach there are Gordons at Auchmair, at Bank, at Gauch, at Reekomlane, and at Brackloch, a Beattie at Powneid; a Dawson at Haddoch, and at Badibae; Kellases, two at Tormchelt; Sheeds, two at Aldunie; a Scott at Milton and Aldunie (part), ; and a Souter at Howbog.

Nearly all the place names must have been originally Gaelic. Shanwell retains its old name, but we have Oldtown [of Corinacy], about a mile from it; Belcherry, perhaps Baile-n-airidh, town of the shieling (Mac-

donald's Place Names in Strathbogie); Lesmurdy Murdoch's fort or keep; Ardwell, probably Ard-shuil high-view—it is spelt, as far as I remember, in old minutes of the kirk-session, Arduil; Milton was no doubt formerly Baile-Mhuillin; Tomnaven, riverhillock; Gauch, or Geyauche, as in Huntly Rental, probably windy, Gaothach—same name found of hill in parish of Strachan, Kincardineshire, and pronounced Go-ach, windy, but common in compounds in the Highlands, a Scorguie, the windy scaur. Locally, the name has been often spelt Gauch, as if a form of Dauch or Davach, but it is often pronounced as if Djauch; similarly Divach near Balmacaan, Inverness-shire, is pronounced Djivach. This place is mentioned in an old ballad referring to a defeat of a strong party of the Clan Chattan, which had invaded the lands of Auchindoun and Cabrach, by Huntly and Sir Patrick Gordon of Auchindoun in about 1592:—

O, Willie Mackintosh, O, Willie Mackintosh,
Whaur left ye a' yer men?
We've left them in the granes o' the Gauch
Feeding the Cabrach swine

The granes I take to refer to the small ravines forming the beds of several small burns in the braes of the Gauch, which as it were score the hill face, and resemble the prongs of a graip, little fork-shaped ravines; compare Furcae or Furculae Caudinae in Lucan and Livy. Tornchelt is Tornachoillte, knoll of the woods, pointing to trees, probably birch, having been more abundant; the brae nearly opposite across the river has many such clumps, and that on same side lower down is thickly clad with the same trees. These conjectures may be wearisome, though interesting to some.

A few extracts from the Kirk-Session Register of the parish may be of more interest to those who may read this compilation, especially as they connect family names with certain farms at dates mentioned. "1740, 13th July—The Rev. Thomas Gordon having been recently appointed to the parish, an investigation took place as to the kirk-session funds," which consisted mainly of bills and securities and the proceeds of fines levied in matters of Church discipline. As the result a note was made of all debts due to the session, and among them is an entry relative to John Gordon in Auchmair, now in Drumferg.

In discipline cases we find also the name of Alex. Gordon in Hadoch, who denied the accusation made. A Bessie Gordon confessed, and imputed paternity to the above-mentioned John. This case was before the session for about three years, the man persisting in his denial, and was at length permitted to take the oath of purgation. After this the woman "did not adhere to her former statement," but meantime John seems to have been obliged to pay his fine. George Gordon, brother of the last, had to appear with Rachael Dauson on a similar charge in February 1741, and both had to pay penalty, but on 17th January, 1742, there was given in an account of George Gordon in Auchmair "for the privilege of being allowed to obey discipline standing in his own seat, £1 16s 0d." A Charles Gordon in Drywells and Elizabeth Cattach (? Cattanach) were similarly charged about same time, but in November, 1744, Charles was allowed to "receive the oath of purgation in presence of the congregation." Such accusations were easily made and difficult to disprove save by the said oath.

The following refers to Church matters about the end of Mr Thomas Gordon's short ministry in this parish. He was of the Lesmoir family:—"At Manse of Cabrach, 29th December, 1746, the ministers of Auchindoir and Kildrummie, being present by appointment of the presbytery, and all the elders of the Kirk-Session of Cabrach, Mr Thomas Gordon, minister, being about to leave the parish, stated that there had been irregularities in the kirk-session some time past, and he did not know in what condition the minutes were, having taken no concern in them since October, 1744 (a singular admission), and he therefore desired that said minutes should be supervised by the presbytery and taken off his hands." [It appears that a committee of presbytery had been applied for for a similar purpose in June, 1745, and appointed, but had never met.] Accordingly they proceeded to consider the state of the poors' money, and he submitted a statement drawn up by the Rev. Theodore Gordon, his predecessor, in 1739:—

John Grant of Rothmaise's bill . . [Evidently money lent at interest by the session to him as an investment.]	£90	0	0
By the minister	111	17	0
Annual rents of Rothmaise's debt, March, 1732, to Nov., 1739 . .	31	0	0
Bill due by John Grant, yr. of Rothmaise	12	0	0

John Gordon in Auchmair for his penalty	12	0	0
Alex. Gordon in Haddoch	4	0	0
Betty Gordon	4	0	0
Rothmaise's letter for Janet Morrison.	4	0	0

Thereupon Rothmaise desired a clearance, and showed that he had made various disbursements out of his own pocket to be charged against interest, and he wanted interest charged at 4 instead of 5 per cent.; the whole balance due by him was shown and admitted to be £90 13s 8d, less 8s, disputed by Rothmaise, who thereupon paid up £90 5s 3d, and his bill was given up to him. Other accounts were similarly dealt with, including that of Mr Gordon, minister of Kennethmont [lately of Cabrach], who had paid up and got back his bill in 1743. Then Mr Thomas Gordon's own account with the session was also settled. Further, the state of the poors' money was considered as in 1739. The following are some notes of details:—John Gordon, yr. of Rothmaise, had paid his penalty. John Gordon, late in Auchmair, had fought about his penalty. Being summoned before a J.P. Court, and as several members of the session seemed inclined to favour him, the session thought it best to accept what he could give provided he paid all expenses incurred. This was agreed to, and the sums paid by him and by young Rothmaise are entered in the collection book —each paid £12, but with reference to Alex. Gordon in Haddoch and Bessie Gordon the elders present represented that they were very poor, and though they could not obtain payment they considered that if they had entered into a process they would have failed to obtain payment, and lost expenses. So they did not press the matter further.

The next note refers to the troublous times 1745-46. No money collected for the poor [i.e., kirk collections] was forthcoming from about Whitsunday, 1745, to the beginning of 1746, the schoolmaster, Alex. Donald, having officiated as session clerk, and his predecessor had refused to give up the scroll minutes etc. Alex. Donald had left the Cabrach, and is said to have entered the King's service in Lord Loudoun's regiment. [This entry seems to imply that he took the poors' money with him.]

The John Gordon late in Auchmair who got a testimonial from the kirk-session in 1747 was not of the same Gordons as the

later Gordons who have long held, and one of whom still holds, that farm. That John Gordon was of the Birkenburn family, and his descendants still bury in the family burial ground. There is a stone in memory of John Gordon, sometime in Auchmair, later in Drumferg, and son of Peter Gordon in Haddich, died July 21, 1752, aged 51 years, lafwl (lawful) husband of Elizabeth Gordon. This John is said to have been "out in the '45" and treated with great rigour; in consequence he died comparatively a young man, and was the father of Colonel John Gordon of the 92nd Highlanders and of Coynachie. The tombstone of Peter Gordon in Haddich (the father of this last John, and of a George, sometime in Auchmair, later in Balnacraig, Glass, and of Peter, Burncruinach (? Buncruinne-ce, the foot of the world), was in good preservation in 1810. The Rev. John Gordon, then minister of Cabrach, made a copy of the inscription and sent it to Mr Hugh Gordon of Manar on 15th July in that year, in a letter, part of which runs—"Hugh Gordon's father was buried beneath that stone, though it does not bear his name." "It recorded his death on 10th December, 1758, and that of his spouse. Bessie Gordon, on 10th December 1728 aged 50, his age being no longer legible." This stone was within a few feet of the table stone of the Gordons, Coynachie.

I suspect that the figures giving date of death were not distinct, and that 1738 is more probable than 1758; the Rev. John Gordon mentions that "his age was no longer legible." In any case, the stone described is no longer to be found, a walk appears to have been made over the spot where it lay, probably a table stone, and I presume it got broken in pieces. There are several memorial stones of the Coynachie family; but these notes are already too voluminous.

[CONCLUDED.]